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Minister claims she is 'too busy' for visit

Snub by Short widens rift with volcano island

By Andrew Pierce, Political Correspondent

THE diplomatic row over the Government's handling of the crisis in Montserrat escalated yesterday when Clare Short snubbed an invitation to visit the island because of pressing overseas commitments and accused its leaders of deliberately misrepresenting British offers of help.

The International Development Secretary cited forthcoming trips to Bangladesh, Hong Kong, and Africa as reasons why she was unable to go to the Caribbean island in the wake of the volcanic eruption.

But it emerged last night that Ms Short will be in her Whitehall office until tomorrow week, when she departs for her next overseas engagement, a one-day trip to Paris.

Ms Short said that her deputy George Foulkes could go in her place. But the Montserrat Government said he was not welcome after he warned that there would be a "cataclysmic eruption" on the island. Montserrat scientists said that he had misinterpreted scientific data and that the risk was negligible.

As criticism grew of the Government's response to its first overseas emergency, Ms Short admitted that her remarks, which included accusing the island's leaders of "sheer irresponsibility" and claiming their financial demands were so unreasonable "they will be wanting golden elephants next", had been unhelpful.

The remarks infuriated the Montserrat Government and led to sharp criticism from the Labour chairman of the Commons foreign affairs select committee and the Labour backbencher Bernie Grant.

The Tories and Liberal Democrats accused the Government of

INSIDE

Even if Ms Short were the busiest of ministers, should she not alter her arrangements?

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being in disarray. The Liberal Democrats called on Ms Short to use the contingency reserve to increase the £10.5 million aid package.

Britain decided last week to organise a partial voluntary evacuation after Mr. Foulkes's statement about an eruption. The Government offered £2,500 pounds per adult to help Montserratians relocate.

But David Brandt, the island's new Chief Minister, said yesterday the offer was not enough. Mr Brandt, repeating his plea for Ms Short to visit the island, said: "We are not asking for luxury. Our people have lost everything they have. We are asking for them [the Government] to give us an opportunity to make a new start."

But asked whether she would accept Mr Brandt's invitation to visit the island Ms Short was emphatic.

"I'm sorry, we've all got to calm down and start behaving better and I'm not planning to go to possibly get more inaccurate denunciations

of what we have been doing," she said on Radio 4's *The World This Weekend*. "I've actually got commitments to go to a lot of other places in the next few weeks."

Her remarks came 24 hours after an interview in *The Observer* in which she said that she was exasperated by the Montserrat Government's "silly political games" and "hysterical scaremongering" in its demands for an improved financial package to help the remaining 5,000 residents to relocate.

"They say 10,000, double, treble, then think of another number. It will be golden elephants next. They have got to stop this game. It is bad governance. It's hysterical scaremongering, which is whipping people up," she told the paper. She said she was so frustrated by it she might cancel the trip by Mr Foulkes which was due to begin on Sunday.

However, Mr Foulkes said last night he was determined to go. "I am ready and expecting to leave on Sunday. The tickets are booked," he said.

Douglas Anderson, the Labour chairman of the Foreign Affairs Select Committee, conceded that Ms Short, who he greatly admired, had been unwise. "Her remarks were unfortunate. They came at a highly sensitive moment. It is clear we are not going to have the niceties of diplomatic language with Clare Short. She cannot be reconstructed. Her remarks are doubly unfortunate because they give an impression she is uncaring, which she is not."

Bernie Grant, the Labour MP for Tottenham, said: "She sounds like a mouthpiece for an old 19th-century colonial and Conservative government."



Clare Short at home in Handsworth after being interviewed by the BBC's *The World This Weekend*

Husband of 'Lady in the Lake' is arrested

By Russell Jenkins

THE former husband of the "Lady in the Lake" murder victim was arrested yesterday after returning from a cycling holiday in France, apparently unaware that police wanted to interview him.

Gordon Park, 53, a retired school teacher, arrived with his third wife, Jenny, to find that in his absence police had searched his house in Barrow, Cumbria. He was being held overnight for further questioning after being interviewed all day about the murder of Carol Park, whose body was found in Coniston Water 21 years after she disappeared in 1976.

Early yesterday evening, detectives again visited Mr Park's home in the Hawcoat area of Barrow. One officer left the house shortly afterwards, carrying a large cardboard box wrapped in black plastic material. Detective Superintendent Ian Douglas, who is leading the investigation, has been anxious to talk to Mr Park, described as a family man and a keen yachtsman, since the body of Mrs Park was discovered by divers early last week 70ft down on the bottom of the lake.

Police have used warrants to search Mr Park's home in Norland Avenue and his 19ft navigator-class yacht, *Mrs J*, moored in Coniston Water, near Nibthwaite. They are also trying to locate a two-berth cruiser which Mr Park once owned.

A police spokesman said: "At 8.10 am a local man from Barrow was arrested in connection with the murder of Carol Park. He is helping police with their inquiries."

Superintendent Douglas officially identified the body as that of Carol Park last Friday. Police interviewers who specialise in teasing out details

Continued on page 2, col 1

VW is haunted by the past

A car which started life in 1938 being promoted by Hitler as the "people's car" before becoming a cult in the 1960s, is back in production. Volkswagen's marketing challenge is to rid the company of the stigma of the war years when VW's factories relied on slave labour including Jews from concentration camps including Auschwitz. Page 19

BT share losses

Some City firms have made losses of up to \$1 billion on share dealings in British Telecom and MCL, BT's American partner. Page 44

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Boy's killer may have been stalking village children

By Joanna Bale

THE killer of the murdered schoolboy Thomas Marshall may have been stalking children in the area, police said yesterday.

Superintendent Les Parrett, who is leading the inquiry, said incidents had been reported of strangers approaching other pupils at Stalham Middle School, Norfolk.

Jin Scott, the headteacher of the 530-pupil school, said that he had become particularly concerned during the summer term. He said: "We have had a number of incidents over the past 12 months where children have been approached on the way to or from the school."

"In April, we went to the police when a boy was approached by a lone man in a car and questioned while on his way to school. It is something we are always aware of particularly because of the holiday industry, which

means there are always strangers about."

Police believe they are hunting a paedophile who snatched Thomas, 12, and later drove 50 miles to dump his body.

Superintendent Parrett said: "We are aware of incidents involving other pupils at Thomas's school and we are looking into them. We are researching any form of incident of this kind. We are interested in anything involving young boys. We would also ask members of the public to come forward with details of any incidents."

A team of 50 officers at an incident room at North Walsham police station have taken over 300 calls since Thomas's body was found by a motorist on Friday evening, dumped at a picnic area an hour's drive from his home in Happisburgh, Norfolk.

He disappeared on Thurs-

day while cycling to a friend's house. He had been strangled but was found fully clothed with no obvious signs of sexual abuse.

His pink bicycle was found in a field three miles from Happisburgh on Friday afternoon.

Thomas was the only child of John Marshall, a Norfolk county council archivist, and Carol, a librarian. Mr Scott said that he was a bright boy who was particularly good at design and technology and a member of the art club. He had received mainly A grades for effort last term and had been about to move up to Stalham High School.

"He was an independent boy and I would be very surprised if he either approached a stranger or allowed a stranger to approach him."

Village shocked, page 3

Tobacco sponsors go into extra time

By Andrew Pierce, Political Correspondent

FERCE lobbying by sporting organisations and cigarette companies has led the Government to scale down its proposals for a swift ban on tobacco sponsorship of major sporting events.

The climbdown means that the name of leading cigarette brands will still be emblazoned around sporting venues on television up until the next general election.

Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, who took the sports world by surprise in May with his unexpected announcement of the ban, has now indicated that all existing contracts — worth £10 million a year for cricket, snooker, rugby league and golf — will be honoured. A White Paper is planned in the autumn which will spell out the change of heart. But with the prospect of the Bill not becoming law for a further 18 months some Health Department officials fear that the tobacco companies might ex-

ploit this and renegotiate longer contracts.

But sources close to Mr Dobson made clear that this would go against the spirit of the compromise which has been thrashed out. Mr Dobson has described the phasing out "as a period of grace".

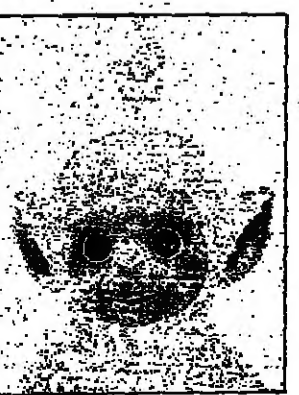
The disclosure of the softly softly approach is in stark contrast to the rhetoric of health ministers, when the ban was announced. Then they indicated that advertisements for cigarettes would disappear from the sporting arena as soon as possible after the change became law.

The compromise is a victory for Tony Banks, the sports minister, who lobbied hard against any pre-emptive strike and who, according to tobacco industry and sporting officials, "had an open door policy".

Whatever the outcome tobacco will still be inextricably linked with televised sports. Continued on page 2, col 4

Inarticulate Teletubbies will burst into prose

By Carol Midgley, Media Correspondent



Laa-Laa: enough to scare off the Germans

THE nonsensical burblings of the Teletubbies may be coming to an end. After criticism from educationists, the BBC is to make the furry creatures speak properly.

The Teletubbies, whose favourite phrases include "Aoehe", "Haro" and "All-gone", live in a surreal land where they communicate in babytalk and eat Tubby toast and custard.

The programme, on BBC 2, is aimed at two-year-olds and

has been praised for being one of the few shows which manages to communicate with pre-school children. But some experts have argued that children are not being taught to use language properly by Dipsy, Po, Laa-Laa and Tinky Winky.

Yesterday at the Edinburgh International Television Festival, Anna Home, head of children's programming said that changes may be made. "It may be that there is a need to get into more traditional speech. There may be some modifications and we may

hear some more adult language."

But she denied that the programme was holding back children's development and making them speak incorrectly. "Children grow up watching *The Clangers* and I don't think we had a whistling generation. That is the way children of that age speak but they don't go on like that."

The Teletubbies have become a favourite with students and millions of pounds of merchandise is being prepared for Christmas. The programme has been sold to

South Africa, Portugal and France. But John Morris, from BBC Worldwide said that some countries had reacted with horror. One major broadcaster in Germany said: "These are like spacemen. I think they will frighten our children."

Ms Home played down the furor surrounding the sacking of David Thompson, the actor inside the suit of Tinky Winky. She said: "He was sacked for professional and performance reasons."

Television Festival, page 4

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MI5 probes 'bugging' claim

A former intelligence officer has alleged that Jack Straw's phone was tapped in the 1970s, reports Michael Evans

AN MI5 intelligence officer who recently resigned is being investigated by the security service after disclosing that Jack Straw, the Home Secretary and the minister accountable to Parliament for MI5 operations, had his telephone tapped when he was president of the National Union of Students.

Revelations about the tapping and bugging of Mr Straw, and of other Labour ministers including Peter Mandelson, Minister without Portfolio, and Harriet Harman, Social Security Secretary, before they entered Parliament, have been made by David Shayler, who left MI5 five months ago.

Mr Shayler, 31, who joined MI5 in 1991 and used to be a journalist on *The Sunday Times*, now faces an

investigation which could lead to police action under the Official Secrets Act. He will be investigated for breaching the terms of his employment which demanded lifelong silence about his work for MI5.

Although Mr Straw will have no part to play in any legal process that might arise from the investigation, the disclosures place the Home Secretary in an unusual position. Although it seems unlikely that Mr Shayler prosecuted, there will be pressure on Mr Straw to take further steps to prevent any other disaffected intelligence officers from breaking their contract.

Mr Shayler is also threatening to write a book about his MI5 career and this could provoke the Attorney-

General John Morris, into pursuing legal action against him and any potential publishers.

All three ministers named as being MI5 bugging victims in the 1970s are away on holiday and were unavailable for comment yesterday.

Undisclosed action was taken earlier this year against a former MI6 officer, known only as Agent T, who had also threatened to write his memoirs after being sacked from the Secret Intelligence Service.

Mr Shayler's account of MI5 action against Mr Straw referred to the period when Mr Straw was a high-profile president of the NUS from 1969 to 1971 and was also politically active at Leeds University. Mr Shayler claimed that Mr Straw was judged by MI5 to be a Communist

sympathiser, although there was no evidence for it.

MI5 bugging of Mr Mandelson, Mr Shayler claimed, also occurred in the 1970s. His file allegedly reported his activities as a member of the Young Communist League in 1972 and his membership of the Communist Party of Great Britain the following year. Mr Mandelson was also recorded as being active in politics at Oxford University.

According to Mr Shayler's allegations which appeared under his own byline in *The Mail on Sunday*, MI5 bugged Mr Mandelson for up to three years and his file remained open for years afterwards. He claimed the file was reviewed as recently as 1992 and that it included "bits" from telephone conversations

while he was a student at St Catherine's College, Oxford.

Mr Shayler said MI5's F2 branch, in charge of counter-subversion, tapped Mr Mandelson's phone to see if he was a Soviet sympathiser. It was an "act of pure paranoia", he said.

Mr Shayler said that the surveillance operation on Mr Mandelson had turned up nothing of interest. He believed that there was nothing in his file which justified such a rigorous inquiry into an individual whose political aspirations were no different from those of thousands of other students in the Seventies.

Ms Harman had her phones tapped when she was legal officer to the National Council for Civil Liberties between 1978 and 1982, Mr Shayler said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Man shot on first day of carnival

A man with a gunshot wound to his chest and abdomen was taken to hospital from the 32nd Notting Hill Carnival, which began yesterday. His injuries are not expected to be life-threatening. The man, 21, was one of 106 casualties, most of whom suffered heat exhaustion and sprained ankles. He was shot as he stood by the Radio One stage on Portobello Green. Another man was injured when he was hit over the head with a bottle in an altercation between two gangs. By 6pm police had arrested ten people from among the estimated 500,000 visitors: five for being drunk and disorderly, three on drugs charges, one for actual bodily harm and one for threatening behaviour. The main day of the carnival today is expected to attract about two million people.

Holidaymaker falls

Eleven British men have been arrested in Tenerife after a holidaymaker fell from the sixth floor of an apartment block. Francis Feeney, 21, from the West Midlands is in a coma after plunging more than 60ft from the apartment. Spanish police said an argument flared between the group and another six men during a drinks party. The 11 have been released without bail.

Drugs law overhaul

Simon Jenkins, a former Editor of *The Times*, and leading lawyers, academics and police officers are to launch a "long overdue" inquiry into the effectiveness of the 1971 Misuse of Drugs Act. The Police Foundation, an independent charity, is expected to focus on whether the law needs to be changed in the light of a growing drugs culture and the Government's commitment to tackle drug-related crime.

Rescue helicopter crashes

A coastguard helicopter has crashed while trying to rescue a stranded climber. The crew had already lifted one man to safety from Stac Pollaigh, a 1800 ft pinnacle in Inverpollaigh Forest near Ullapool, and were attempting to winch a second man aboard when the rotor blades collided with the rockface. None of the crew, based in Stornoway, is believed to be seriously injured.

Bishops' palace sold

A listed palace that has been home to Bishops of Portsmouth since the 1920s has been sold for £600,000. Bishopscote, on the outskirts of Fareham in Hampshire, has one of the largest thatched roofs in England and is the first bishop's palace to be sold after the Church of England's last £800 million on the property market in the 1980s. The bishop will move to a six-bedroom Victorian villa.

Rave herbs targeted

A clampdown on herbal drugs popular at nightclubs and raves will be unveiled by the Government this week. Ministers have evidence that despite claims to the contrary the products, marketed as natural alternatives to ecstasy and cannabis, can be lethal. Ingredients in the products include yohimbine, ipomoea and ephedrine. Suppliers could face two years' imprisonment.

Driver burnt in car fire

Motorists went to the help of a driver who fled from his blazing car with his clothes on fire. The 22-year-old man was fighting for his life after critical burns to his body in the blaze in the car park of Streatham Services on the south-bound carriageway of the M5 motorway. Other drivers ran across and began beating down the flames before the man, from the Nottingham area, was taken to hospital.

War aircrew honoured

A group of schoolchildren will today take part in honouring Britain's most isolated war memorial, dedicated to the memory of the Duke of Kent - King George VI's youngest brother - and the crew of an RAF Sunderland flying boat which crashed in the foothills of the Scarabans in Caithness in 1942. The Friends of War Memorials is to lead a pilgrimage to the site of the crash.



Jeremy Park, son of the 'Lady in the Lake' victim, comforts his stepsister, Jane, who has recently undergone surgery, as she arrives at the family home in Barrow yesterday

Husband of 'Lady in the Lake' held after holiday

Continued from page 1

from distressed children have interviewed each of Carol Park's children: Vanessa, eight at the time of her mother's disappearance in 1976, Jeremy, who was six, and Rachel, then five.

A neighbour said he saw what appeared to be the couple unpacking the back of Mr Park's car at around 1.30am outside their redbrick and

pebble-dash suburban home in the Hawtorn area of Barrow. Jeremy Park, dressed in a blue shirt and dark trousers, was at the family home, where he told reporters he had been advised by police not to speak about recent events.

The curtains remained drawn at the house where, soon after midnight, Carol Park's daughter by an earlier marriage, Jane, arrived. She has

recently undergone surgery and appeared in some discomfort as she was helped into the house by Jeremy.

The children have been taken back to the events leading up to their mother's disappearance on July 17, 1976. The couple had been planning to take the children to Blackpool for a day trip from their three-bedroom bungalow in Leaze, near Barrow. Carol Park pulled out at the last

minute complaining that she was not feeling well. When they returned there was no trace of her. She was not seen again until her body, wrapped in bin-liners and weighted down, was hauled from the lake.

Ivor Price 57, Carol Park's brother, a retired shipyard worker from Wainey, near Barrow, said he would not speculate about the killer. He said at the weekend: "I feel very bitter

towards the person who did this. I have my suspicions, but until a person is proven guilty they remain innocent. I have every confidence the police will bring the killer to justice."

Mr Price said that the events of the past few days have been overwhelming for the family, especially Vanessa, who was adopted by Mrs Park after her sister, Christine, was murdered by her lover.

Deal helps sport

Continued from page 1

June 1, the date of the next General Election when the Government hopes to trumpet figures which show a sharp drop in the number of

strikes. The deal will be a huge boost to the sporting world which was forced to extend the opening round to would be beneficiaries such as Richard Branson to fill the gap.

Manufacturers, the manufacturers' association, which also lobbied hard behind the scenes, was delighted by the outcome. John Carlisle, the executive director for external affairs, said that the outcome was a victory for the combined might of the industry and the sporting world. "The Government has made an important concession. Ministers realised that to try to do this more quickly was much more complex than they realised."

Mr Carlisle, a former Conservative MP, said that the change of heart was a victory for Tony Blair. He has been far more open than the puritans of the Department of Health, he said.

The premier county cricket competitions, which will run until the year 2000, the Benson & Hedges Ice Hockey championship in Sheffield, which will run to the same date.

A spokesman for Gullaghers said: "We are relieved that contract will be allowed to run their course. But, of course, we would prefer it if they could continue indefinitely." The Tobacco Manufacturers' Association, which also lobbied hard behind the scenes, was delighted by the outcome. John Carlisle, the executive director for external affairs, said that the outcome was a victory for the combined might of the industry and the sporting world. "The Government has made an important concession. Ministers realised that to try to do this more quickly was much more complex than they realised."

Mr Carlisle, a former Conservative MP, said that the change of heart was a victory for Tony Blair. He has been far more open than the puritans of the Department of Health, he said.

Mowlam to issue talks invitation to Sinn Fein

By MARTIN FLETCHER, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

MO MOWLAM, the Northern Ireland Secretary, is preparing to give a formal invitation to Sinn Fein this week to join the full-scale peace negotiations beginning next month.

Her announcement will pave the way for an historic first meeting between Tony Blair, the Prime Minister, and Gerry Adams, the Sinn Fein president. That politically sensitive encounter could conceivably occur behind closed doors at Stormont Castle if Mr Blair attends the negotiations' opening session on September 15, but Downing Street denied yesterday that any sort of meeting was yet being planned.

Sinn Fein officials also said they knew of no arrangements being made, but insisted that "we won't take part in any surreptitious meetings or anything that's contrived. If and when Gerry Adams meets Mr

Blair, it will be for substantive talks."

Sinn Fein said it wanted a meeting as soon as possible after September 15. "Tony Blair has met the leaders of all the other parties and as soon as the talks start, he won't be able to make any more excuses," one official said.

The Government imposed a six-week quarantine period on Sinn Fein after the IRA's ceasefire declaration on July 30. That ends next Sunday and, barring some last-minute atrocity, there is no doubt that Dr Mowlam will judge the ceasefire to be sufficiently genuine "in word and deed" for Sinn Fein to be admitted to the Stormont negotiations.

Senior security sources say the IRA has not only stopped all overt violence, but has sharply curtailed other operations including kneecapping, punishment beatings, intelligence gathering and sur-

veillance. But whether the Ulster Unionist Party will agree to negotiate directly with Sinn Fein remains unclear. A senior UUP source denied reports yesterday that it had all but decided to do so.

Sinn Fein has refused to countenance any IRA disarmament or to accept the principle of consent if limited to Northern Ireland. The UUP is also deeply unhappy about the Government's failure to establish an international commission on disarmament.

Over the weekend John Taylor, the UUP's deputy leader, claimed Dublin was trying to block the appointment of John de Chastelain, the Canadian general, to chair the commission because of his tough line on IRA disarmament. The commission's role is expected to be discussed when Dr Mowlam meets Ray Burke, the Irish Foreign Minister, in Belfast tomorrow.

Woman wins £50,000 over hysterectomy

Ms Mary Smith, 42, has won a £50,000 settlement over a hysterectomy performed without her consent.

Ms Smith, 42, went into Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital, London, for a minor gynaecological procedure and woke to find the surgeon had performed a hysterectomy.

Ms Smith, of Putney, southwest London, has now received the settlement from the National Health Service after a year and a half of legal action. She is now 45 and has a half-year-old son and a half-year-old daughter.

Ms Smith said: "This is an im-

portant victory for women. I am pleased with the settlement, but it was never a money thing. I didn't want to sue the operation and I did not and would not have consented. It was a terrible waste of NHS money."

"What I want is my female parts. I want to have a female body. What the surgeon did to me is a crime. Doctors would never consider removing a man's penis without asking him first."

After the operation, Ms Smith, who is divorced and has no children, had to receive therapy for post-traumatic stress. She said: "I have been sexually unable to work since the operation and it has had severe effects on my private life. I had hoped to

remarry but it is very difficult to think of myself as a woman when I have got some of my vital organs missing."

Ms Smith was admitted to Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital in April 1992 for an NHS operation to reduce heavy periods. When she realised that the surgeon had removed her womb and ovaries, she discharged herself and complained to the police.

A one-year police investigation ended without a prosecution. Ms Smith then sued Mr Fergusson and South East London Health Authority for negligence and battery and/or trespass against the person.

Her solicitor, Elizabeth Hayes, said: "Although no admission of liability

was made, the claims settled for an essentially full liability sum."

Since the incident the hospital has introduced protocols for obtaining informed consent to avoid similar misunderstandings in the future.

A statement from Guy's and St Thomas' said: "We deeply regret the distress suffered by Ms Richmond as a result of the hysterectomy, for which she felt she had not given permission."

"However, we understand that Mr Fergusson thought that he had Ms Richmond's consent to carry out a hysterectomy if he believed it to be in her medical interests. Clearly a breakdown in communication led to the misunderstanding."

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Prayers for murdered boy



Police searching the undergrowth at the picnic area near Thetford where Thomas, right aged 9, was found



Village is united in grief over 'loss of innocence'

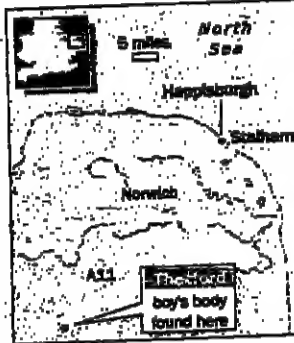
By JOANNA BAILE

RESIDENTS of Happisburgh in Norfolk yesterday prayed for the 12-year-old boy Thomas Marshall, who is believed to have been murdered by a paedophile after he was found strangled 50 miles from home at a roadside picnic area.

The Rev Richard Hines told a packed service at St Mary the Virgin Church that the small seaside village had become a focus of national grief. "Such an act of despicable evil and appalling violence to such a young and vulnerable person has shocked people to the core."

During a prayer, he spoke of the grief of Thomas's parents, John and Carol, and his grandfather, also Thomas. "We hold before you all parents with children in this neighbourhood and all the anxiety and concern which is theirs and ours... all the disgust that we feel and all the questions and doubts that Thomas's death raises."

Dr Hines said that two police officers were waiting outside the church if they had any information, "however



The fête today is cancelled. People were no longer in the mood for it, said the Rev Richard Hines

trivial". After the service, David Will, a Happisburgh parish councillor, said the murder had meant a loss of innocence for the village's 900 residents.

He said: "The village is in an absolute state of shock. It is a shared grief. There is a terrible sense of loss right across the village."

"This is the sort of place where people still do not lock their doors. Everyone knows each other's business and children up to now have always ridden around care-free on bikes. Since Thomas's body was found, I have not

seen a child alone on a bike. I don't know if it is ever going to be the same here again."

John Knight, 65, who lives next door to the Marshalls' flint cottage, said: "He was such a nice boy and so respectful. Perhaps he was a little too nice and naive and believed someone and went with them when he should not have."

Dr Hines added: "Everyone is full of questions like 'What sort of person has been moving around among us' and 'How can something like this happen?' People are being very reflective and subdued."

Some people are saying that the children are grounded until they can be sure it's safe. This is just a traditional Norfolk village which is quite isolated, so people tend to be remarkably close with lots of neighbourly contact."

He said the village fête today has been cancelled because people were "not in the mood".

Like many local families, the Marshalls have lived in the Happisburgh area for generations. Mr Marshall's grandfather owned the house before him, worked as a motor engineer and ran the local forge.

Amanda Balls, 12, a friend and classmate of Thomas, said: "Thomas normally spends every summer down at the beach but this summer we did not see so much of him. I think he was hanging around with different friends. When he disappeared we thought he had just run away and would come home any day."

She said he had recently been in trouble with the police for setting light to a haystack with friends. "They were mucking around and it just

got out of hand. He was given a caution."

Her mother, Linda Balls, said: "I saw his mother on Friday morning when Thomas was still missing when I went for a walk at the beach. She was looking for Thomas and asked me if I had seen him."

"I hugged her and said I was sure he would be OK. She was just in such shock and wanted to keep looking. She just said: 'If you see him, send him home.'"

Police officers trained in searching scenes of crime areas yesterday began combing the picnic area where the

body was found in bracken at Roudham Heath, near Thetford, 50 yards off the south-bound carriageway of the A11 Norwich to London road. The area is a popular overnight stop for lorry drivers and also a meeting-point of homosexuals.

David Sutherland, acting Inspector and police search adviser, said: "We are doing a fingertip search within 20 metres of the body and an initial search of the whole area with sticks."

A telephone box and the contents of litter bins were being examined and fingerprints taken. Detectives were

also questioning Thomas's friends.

Superintendent Les Parrent, who is leading the inquiry, said: "He told his parents that he had found a fast cycle route along a dust track called Cart Gap. He was a distinctive-looking boy with blond hair and we have already had some sightings of him."

Police are also examining tapes from closed-circuit television cameras from petrol stations along the route between Happisburgh and Thetford. He was wearing a black T-shirt and black track suit trousers when he disappeared.

50 flights diverted as crash closes Gatwick

By HARVEY ELLIOTT
AIR CORRESPONDENT

THOUSANDS of passengers who had been expecting to arrive at Gatwick yesterday found themselves landing instead at airports from Aberdeen to Southampton after Britain's busiest holiday airport was forced to shut for nearly three hours.

As thousands of holiday-makers returned to a damp and muggy southern Britain, an Airbus A320 carrying 157 passengers and eight crew had to turn back 50 minutes after taking off for Palma, Majorca, because of a fault in the hydraulics controlling the nose wheel. After a perfect touchdown the pilot tried to control the aircraft by alternating the brakes but, with no real control available, the aircraft veered off the runway on to a grass verge. The passengers were taken off by emergency chutes and none was hurt.

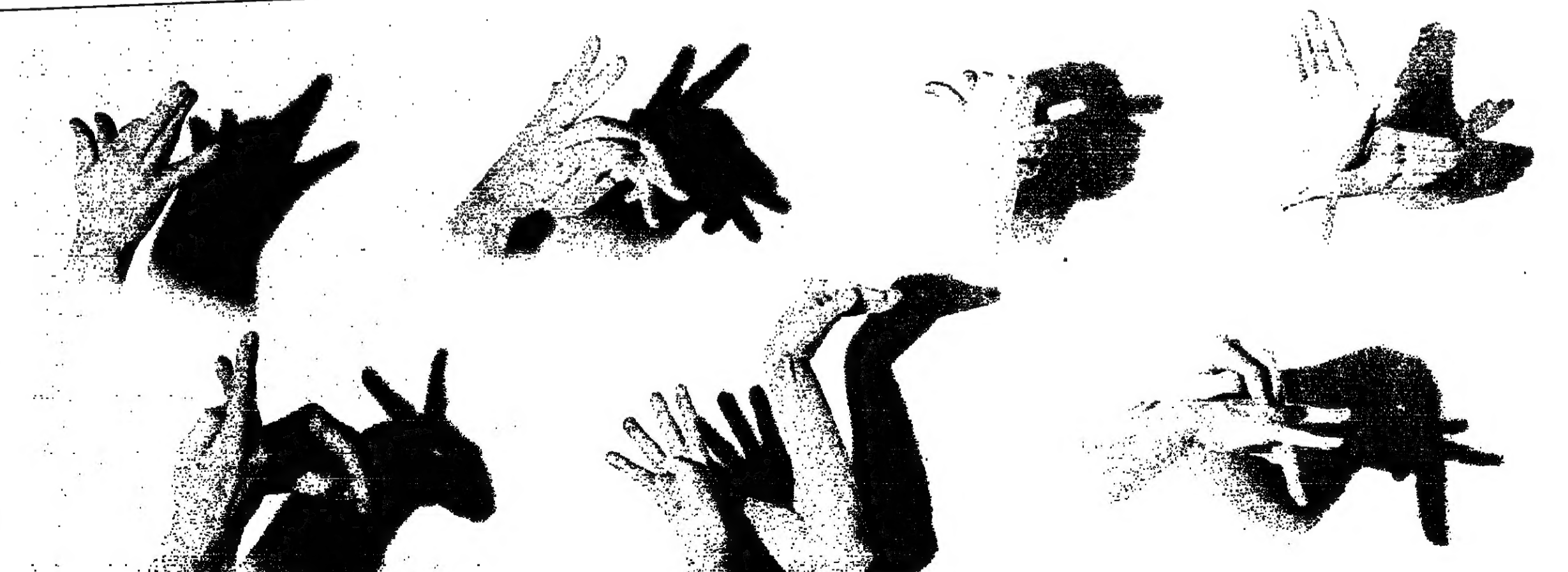
The incident, on one of the busiest days of the year, blocked Gatwick's single runway and forced the closure of the airport. Air traffic controllers had to divert 50 waiting flights to any airport able to take them. One flight from the United States was told to land at Aberdeen, while others were sent to Manchester, Luton, Stansted, Southampton and Manston, Kent.

Airlines arranged coach transport back to Gatwick for the thousands of passengers affected. The emergency led to some departing flights being cancelled and delays of up to two hours for almost all departures.

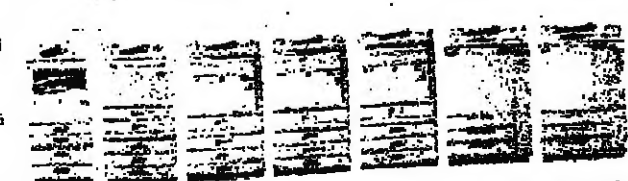
Affected airlines spent most of yesterday trying to get their schedules back to normal after bringing diverted flights — some with passengers still on board — back to Gatwick. British Airways had 11 inbound flights diverted and had to cancel five departures. More than 200 British holidaymakers who thought they were returning to Stansted airport were surprised to see that they had landed at Gatwick instead.

It is thought that Cubana flight CU144 from Havana on Wednesday had filed the wrong flight plan. If a pilot is handed a plan giving co-ordinates for Gatwick, he enters them in the aircraft's computer and it goes there almost automatically.

The aircraft took off again for Stansted after half an hour, with the explanation that it had diverted because of "bad weather at Stansted". Wednesday was one of the best, cloudless days of the summer. No one in Havana would comment further.




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Tory gibes as Blair peer joins list of top donors

By Andrew Pierce, Political Correspondent

THE Government was accused of double standards last night after it emerged that a fourth newly ennobled peer on Tony Blair's first honours list had given more than £5,000 to Labour Party funds.

Michael Montague, the millionaire former chairman of the English Tourist Board, will be named in the next fortnight in the list of top donors.

The Conservative Party seized on the disclosure to accuse the Labour Party, which regularly linked honours to donations to the Tory Party, of double standards. The Tories have dubbed it "cash for coronets".

David Sainsbury, the chairman of the supermarket group, Ruth Rendell, the crime writer and Sir David Putnam, the Oscar-winning film producer, were elevated to the Lords by the Prime Minister in last month's honours list. All three will be included on the list of donors who gave £5,000 or more.

The Times has learnt that Mr Montague, a close friend of the late Labour leader John Smith, will also be included in the list, which is intended to show that the Labour Party, unlike the Conservatives, is transparent about its source of donations.

The list will not disclose the size of the donation, although David Sainsbury, one of Britain's wealthiest men, made a "substantial" donation and Ruth Rendell about £10,000.

Mr Montague, who was Labour's nominee before the election on the Millennium Commission, which allocates National Lottery money, was out of the country yesterday and unavailable for



Montague gave more than £5,000 to Labour

comment.

The Labour Party refused to confirm the identities of the donors on the list but stressed that all the working peers would be expected to make regular attendances at the House of Lords. "They are not honours. They are working peers," said a spokesman.

Alan Duncan, a Tory Party vice-chairman, said: "Every pledge, every word, every principle, is being discarded now that they have got into power. It is now clear that the entire attitude in opposition of Mr Blair was one big journey of deceit."

All is not well with Mr Blair's army of well-known fundraisers. Ken Follett, the best-selling novelist, who has helped to raise hundreds of thousands of pounds for party funds, yesterday criticised Mr Blair for excluding him from the inner-circle role that he enjoyed under Neil Kinnock and John Smith.

Mr Follett, who helped to raise the money for the Excalibur rapid rebuttal unit

database, which was one of the party's most effective election weapons, criticised the Prime Minister for shutting the unit down to save money.

In an article in *The Observer*, Mr Follett also attacked Mr Blair for dropping him after a spate of unhelpful headlines in the tabloids in response to a dinner party at his Chelsea home in honour of the future Prime Minister.

"Stung by these taunts, his spin doctors let it be known that he was distancing himself from the showbusiness community in an effort to appear more serious," Mr Follett wrote. "Most versions of this story in the next few days and my name was in every one."

"The characteristic failing of spin doctors is short-sightedness. They can't see beyond tomorrow's headlines. My credibility as a fundraiser was destroyed at a stroke. Once the leader publicly announces that he does not want to know you, you're finished."

Mr Blair was heavily criticised by the Conservatives for awarding a peerage to Michael Levy, the record producer, who raised hundreds of thousands of pounds for the blind trust which financed the office of the Leader of the Opposition.

Swraj Paul, an industrialist, who gave £30,000 a year to Labour through the Caparo Group, his family's steel-making business, was also made a Labour life peer last year.

Labour is reportedly almost £5 million in debt in the wake of the party's victory in the general election.



Michael Caine and Sean Connery in Edinburgh. They starred in *The Man Who Would Be King*, which will close the city's film festival

Dewar dismisses devolution warning

Connery sides with Labour as top Scottish banker issues 'unjustified' tax prediction

DONALD DEWAR, the Scottish Secretary, yesterday rejected a warning from a leading banker that devolution could cost the average wage-earner more than £300 a year.

Sir Bruce Patullo, the Governor of the Bank of Scotland, estimated that an Edinburgh parliament with tax-varying powers could leave voters up to £6 a week worse off.

Mr Dewar said yesterday: "What we are doing is giving very limited tax-varying powers, and it's a matter for a grown-up parliament with grown-up responsibilities to decide how it will use these powers. What Sir

Bruce is doing is assuming, as the Conservatives tend to do, that that power will be used to the maximum as a matter of routine, almost, and therefore they produce some fearsome figures. It's not justified."

"I actually believe it amounts to saying that you can't trust Scots to act responsibly if you put them in positions of authority over their own affairs," he told the BBC Radio 4's *The World This Week*.

Sir Bruce had said: "In the United Kingdom [Scots] are going to live in a region which has a different tax regime and it is going to stick out like

a sore thumb. I do not want to dramatise the situation. It will be slow and corrosive."

Sean Connery yesterday gave his unequivocal support to devolution, declaring: "It's yes, yes, yes for me." The coming referendum was an "opportunity that should not be missed", the actor said in Edinburgh, where he was to attend the screening of the Scottish Screen Edinburgh International Film Festival's closing film, *The Man Who Would Be King*, in which he starred with Michael Caine.

The 66-year-old star, who was

joined by Caine at the festival's closing press conference, said: "I think it has teeth and in my own opinion it's the next step from independence."

"But you know, to run it, they've been out of circulation for 300 years, so you're going to get a quick learning process. But the value we have is that we can learn from the other parliamentary mistakes."

Caine also thought that devolution was a good idea. "Everyone should run their own affairs. Small is beautiful: the smaller you get the better."

Army gives tough sergeant-majors marching orders

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

THE Army will formally launch a new softer training policy this week in an attempt to persuade young recruits that the old days of barking sergeant-majors and grueling fitness tests are over.

Alarmed by a marked short-fall in recruits and aware that today's teenagers are not as fit or macho as previous generations, Army chiefs ordered a rethink on the way initial training was carried out. Major General Christopher Elliott, Director-General Army Training and Recruiting, has come up with a training programme that offers a more gentle touch.

It will be unveiled by John Reid, the Armed Forces Minister, at the Army Training Regiment headquarters at Pirbright in Surrey on Wednesday. The Army is currently 5,000 soldiers under strength.

The Army has recognised that recruits need to be nurtured not hectorred and that the initial training should be more gradual, building up slowly to the levels of fitness required

for professional soldiers. Overall standards will not be reduced but recruits will be allowed to take longer to reach the peak of fitness.

The Army also desperately wants to recruit more women and one of the changes to be outlined this week will be that rookies will no longer be expected to go on regular endurance runs but will start with aerobic activities.

Physical fitness will also be linked to the roles to be played by the individual soldiers. So a recruit wanting to be a clerk will not be expected to reach the same fitness standard as someone aiming to be a frontline soldier.

Army chiefs are hopeful that the softer approach will reduce the number of injuries which have been affecting young unfit recruits and also cut back on the high proportion who drop out of the basic training after a few weeks.

Since a pre-training programme to raise fitness levels began earlier this year, pass rates have risen by 10 per cent.

Push to build incinerators for BSE cattle

By Dominic Kennedy

INCINERATORS to burn cattle suspected of having "mad cow" disease are to be built over the country as the Government struggles to dispose of the growing offal mountain in cold stores.

Councils have been told by Whitehall to give urgent priority to planning applications for incineration plants to cope with the backlog of cattle being slaughtered. Already 1.5 million beasts older than 30 months have been killed and another 800,000 will be sent to the slaughterhouse this year, under the Government's precautionary programme to restore confidence in beef.

That has left 350,000 tonnes of meat, bonemeal and tallow in cold stores, costing taxpayers hundreds of thousands of pounds a week, because there are too few incinerators to burn the remains.

The Department of the Environment wrote this month to local authorities across England urging them to hold "full and early discussions" with interested parties to construct

incineration plants. The Government fears that opposition from local residents may delay planners from granting permission.

Whitehall has been keen to reassure councils that only healthy cattle at the end of their working lives were disposed of by burning. The risk to public health was infinitesimal.

Jack Cunningham, the Agriculture Secretary, yesterday said that he might raise with the European Union a study which says continental countries are hugely under-reporting cases of BSE.

A new report by three respected experts on animal disease appeared to support British farmers' long-standing suspicions that other European countries have underestimated the scale of BSE infection in their herds.

Public fears have been heightened by the case of Clare Tompkins, 24, who is dying of the new variant of CJD although she has been a vegetarian since 1986.

Former MP takes cash for jokes

By Carol Midgley

IN THEIR latest bid to become a celebrity television couple, Neil and Christine Hamilton yesterday appeared as star guests at an event sponsored by *The Guardian*.

Mr Hamilton, the disgraced former Tory MP whose career was ruined after *The Guardian* exposed him for accepting cash for questions in the House, and his wife received little more than a night in an hotel and their air tickets to be the butt of humour at a seminar at the Edinburgh International Television Festival.

They posed as two married television presenters in a workshop about a spoof television channel, Channel 6. They were cast as a couple so desperate for work that they were prepared to consider the



Neil and Christine Hamilton: almost masochistic

cheapest and most ludicrous of offers.

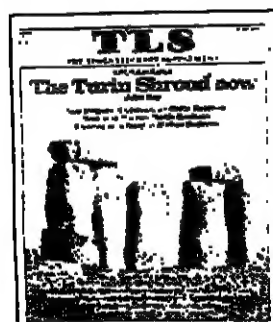
The Hamiltons smilingly withstood a string of jokes about cash for questions and even ventured a few of their own. In what onlookers described as an almost masochistic spectacle, they

he's out of the country," he said to scurrilous applause.

It is understood the Hamiltons are seeking a television contract and may speak to producers whilst in Edinburgh.

Divorced couples are to take part in a new television quiz show that will test them on their memories of past arguments and infidelities. In the LWT programme, *Can We Still Be Friends?*, couples will be asked questions such as "What was the name of the woman your husband was first unfaithful with?"

□ Brian Park, the new producer of *Coronation Street*, yesterday defended his decision to introduce violence and adultery into the programme. He insisted that the Baz Luhrmanns, his "family from hell", was no more shocking than the Ogdens in the 1960s.



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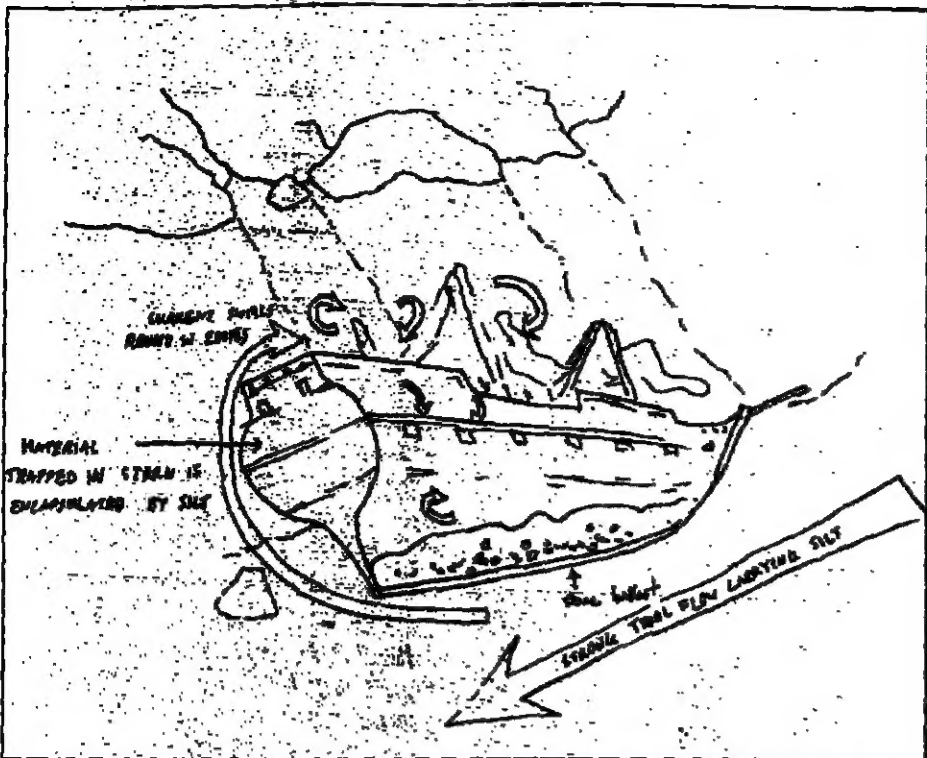
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Returned to the mercy of the sea



Tidal currents preserved the ship by covering and filling it with tons of silt
Excavation of the most important wreck found since Henry VIII's *Mary Rose* has been ended by a lack of funds, reports Stephen Farrell

MARINE archaeologists will today consign back to the deep a Cromwellian warship that has provided insights into Britain's navy during the Civil War. The *Swan*, a 200-ton man-of-war, was hailed the most exciting underwater discovery in Britain since the *Mary Rose* after divers found its 350-year-old interior perfectly preserved in silt.

A team from the Scottish Institute of Maritime Studies has logged 1,000 hours underwater during five years in which it has recovered the ship's binnacle and compass, weapons, carvings and clothing.

Today, the expedition, led by Colin Martin of St Andrews University, will pump silt into the collapsed stern and lay the final sandbags to protect it from erosion as the first stage of excavation comes to a close.

The vessel is too fragile to be brought to the surface but more money is needed if ambitious plans to excavate the remainder of the exposed stern and buried ship are to be realised.

The *Swan*, a 20-cannon vessel built in the early 1640s for Charles I, would have had a crew of between 60 and 80. After being captured by a parliamentary vessel in 1645, she spearheaded Cromwell's naval intelligence-gathering



operation on the western coast during the early 1650s. She sank in 40ft of water a few yards off the Isle of Mull in a violent storm on September 13, 1653, while suppressing the Royalist Maclean clan at Duart Castle.

The few men aboard probably perished; witnesses could hear their cries for help but because of the heavy seas and steep rocks could not save them.

She was discovered in 1979 by John Dudgeon, a Royal Navy diving instructor, who noticed the blurred outline of three cannons while fishing for lobsters. Hoping to salvage the wreck himself, he told nobody for 12 years but when he realised the fragility of the material, he contacted the archaeological diving unit at St Andrews.

They found that tidal patterns that had preserved the wreck by pushing silt into the collapsed stern had changed

and threatened to destroy what remained.

The team, which was funded by Historic Scotland, used underwater video cameras and suction equipment to remove the silt and diving suits fitted with microphones as they logged and excavated hundreds of artefacts. These have been sent to conservation laboratories at the National Museums of Scotland in Edinburgh.

Among the most important early finds was the ship's binnacle, which held navigational aids and was the first to be recovered from a shipwreck of the period.

They also recovered the compass, parts of the pump, carved heads and ornate fittings and a crest bearing the motto *Ich Dien*, coronet and feathers. This confirmed it was the *Swan*.

Dr Martin said the five-year marine excavation had exceeded all expectations. "Although quite a small ship she appears to have been used for quite sensitive and important work, keeping an eye on Irish, Scottish and foreign incursions on the Western coast of Britain. She was, if you like, Cromwell's GCHQ."

"We knew there was something inside the vessel but we didn't know how much or in what condition it was. In fact there is an awful lot down



The *Swan*'s stern carving. Colin Martin, below, sits in front of Duart Castle holding a weight from a portable balance, found in the wreck

there. The silt has covered everything and preserved all the doors, panelling and internal furnishings in almost pristine condition. It is really quite extraordinary."

Although maritime engagements played no significant part in the Civil War, Cromwell knew the importance of a powerful and loyal navy. The *Swan* and five other ships, under the command of Colonel Ralph Cobbett, transported 1,000 soldiers to lay siege to Duart Castle, only to find the castle empty and the Macleans fled.

The troops had just landed when the storm broke, as described in a letter to Cromwell from his senior commander in Scotland, Robert Lilburne: "There hapned a most violent storme, which continued for 16 or 18 houres together in which wee lost a small Man of Warre called the *Swan*... and all this in the sight of our men at land, who saw their freinds drowning and heard them crying for helpe, but could not save them."

The human remains will be

taken away for scientific examination and later returned, probably for burial at Duart. The area has been protected and designated a shipwreck site.

Dr Martin said much remained to be done, but the first phase was complete. "There are substantial parts of the ship still buried beneath the stone ballast carried in the hold. The next phase would be to excavate the collapsed remainder of the stern and perhaps eventually even the remainder of the ship, although that is unlikely. For now we are going to cap the site with sandbags and leave the remainder for another time. Whether that is us or some future generation, who knows."



The ship's compass, left, and a wooden spoon which were recovered from the wreck in near-pristine condition

Zoo signs up tame poet to celebrate its wild beasts

LONDON ZOO is to house a new species - a poet in residence.

The zoo will be the first beneficiary of a Poetry Society coup in winning a £450,000 National Lottery grant from the Arts Council for a two-year programme to establish poets in residence at a variety of sometimes unlikely venues around the country.

Others proposed homes for poets include parks, gardens, libraries, schools, bookshops, offices and company headquarters. Chris Meade, the director of the Poetry Society who conceived the scheme, said yesterday: "I am overjoyed. This is great news, not just for poets but for the whole of society."

Mr Meade said that the management of the zoo was "very enthusiastic" about the scheme. Its ideas included creating poetry guides to the zoo and its collections, finding poems

The Poetry Society has won lottery cash to allow the muse to travel the land, reports Robin Young

to cages and arranging programmes to encourage visitors and staff to write their own poems about zoo life. About 100 such placements and eight residences will be created each year under the lottery-funded scheme.

Mr Meade, whose organisation has doubled its membership over the past two years, said: "We know poets can inspire children, teenagers and adults to love language and imagination. Now, after years on a shoestring, we have the resources to prove poetry's worth on a national scale."

The announcement comes amid sensational times for poets. One of their number, Murray Lachlan Young, has a

deal with EMI worth the sort of money previously reserved for pop stars. The 28-year-old is to record his works on CD for £1.1 million.

Among those already seeking a poet in residence is Mishcon De Reyza, the London solicitors who act for Diana, Princess of Wales. The firm is offering £10,000 a year for a successful applicant.

To celebrate its promotion to the Premier League, Barnsley football club has already appointed Ian McMillan, a local man, as its poet in residence.

Football verse has traditionally been of the rather simple rhyming variety ("Two, four, six, eight, who do we appreciate?" or "He's got no

hair, but we don't care") and this is the first time a club has taken an official interest in emphasising the poetry of the sport.

Mr Meade, who is interviewing would-be poets in residence as fast as he can, said: "What interests us is the opening of a whole range of opportunities for poets. As far as lawyers are concerned, for example, poets can help them think about the use of language when making pleas or arguing points of law."

The society is also in discussion with Marks & Spencer. An M&S poet would not only encourage staff with a literary talent, according to Jane Lowe, a spokeswoman for the company, but could write poems on special occasions, or perhaps provide the chairman with a few useful verses to enliven a speech.

Leading article, page 19

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John O'Leary on new claims about intelligence

Old people who stay healthy also stay sharp

PEOPLE who remain healthy into old age do not suffer an inevitable decline of brainpower, a study has shown.

Tests on 400 Edinburgh pensioners in their late seventies and early eighties show no significant loss of mental ability over the past four years, contradicting the belief that confusion and loss of sharpness are an inevitable accompaniments to getting old.

Dr John Starr, of the Department of Geriatric Medicine at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Edinburgh, says: "If you remain in health, and do not develop dementia, the

... that your cognitive powers will remain the same through your late 70s."

The results, published in the *Journal Age and Ageing*, are part of a long-term study called Healthy Old People in Edinburgh. In 1990, 603 people, all then 76 or over, were tested on their cognitive abilities using the Mini-Mental State Examination, which consists of a series of questions.

The pensioners were tested again in 1994; those who had died moved away, or become ill were excluded from retesting, which was designed to show whether declines occur among the healthy.

The conclusion was that if

they do, the rate is barely perceptible. Previous studies that have found age-related declines may have done so because they included people with health problems, Dr. Stuss suspects.

"There is evidence that Edinburgh people are a well-educated, well-nourished group; those factors can help maintain mental powers," he says.

Previous results show that people who are more intelligent show slower declines than the less-intelligent. This may be because they have greater mental reserves, or because they tend to keep mentally active.



By ROBIN YOUNG

Concentration on the final challenges on the global final, a tactical battlefield was intense as mental athletes, with brains supposedly the size of footballs, put their grey matter to work on the multiple challenges of the 'pentamind' event. In that event the contenders tackled five different games and the competition with the highest cumulative score won.

The Olympiad organisers denied that it was necessary to have a Mensa membership to understand the complexity of the scoreboard, but the awards ceremony was delayed until 8.30pm, to allow administrators to calculate and recalculate the results to ensure that competitors had enjoyed a 'level thinking field'.

One highlight of yesterday's mental battle was the finals of *The Times* crossword competition, for which competitors had qualified by a series of heats and regional finals. *The Mind Sports Olympiad*, which is hoped to become an annual event, was sponsored by the Bank of Scotland and financial services group Skandia, and supported by *The Times*.



Sir Paul Condon, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, has launched an inquiry into claims that serving and retired officers earned extra cash by "moonlighting" as private detectives, and used official police equipment.

Up to 20 officers are under investigation after allegations that members of the public were bugged and that data from the Police National Computer have been sold.

Among other allegations being studied by Scotland Yard detectives is that two Metropolitan Police officers set up private investigation agencies and that another offered to provide details of criminal records and motorists' personal details for £50.

A girl died and her brother and sister were badly burnt in a suspected chip-pan fire after they were left alone at home. Firemen found Jane Walmesley, 12, upstairs in the terrace house in Accrington, Lancashire. Her brother, Wesley, 11, was severely ill and her sister, Jordan, 6, was stable. Their mother Dawn, 31, was at a friend's home near by.

Relatives of Lucille McLaughlin and Deborah Parry, the British nurses accused of murder in Saudi Arabia, flew out to be with them before the court's verdict is delivered. The nurses could be beheaded if they are found guilty of murdering their Australian colleague Yvonne Gilford. The pair have repeatedly protested their innocence.

A 24-year-old man serving four years for burglary was found hanging in his cell at Haverigg prison, near Mablethorpe, Cumbria. Staff failed in their attempts to revive Christopher O'Connor, who was sentenced at Preston, Lancashire in January. The police and coroner have been informed and an inquest will be held.

A police sergeant was killed when his car hit one of the horses roaming on the A19 near Washington, Tyne and Wear, and left the road. Steve Armstrong, 35, who had been twice commended, was driving home to South Shields in the early hours after a night shift. His wife, Julie, is expecting their first child. The horse was also killed.

A squirrel cut electricity to more than 20,000 homes, causing an explosion in a substation. The power cut affected Pinner, Borehamwood and Stannore in northwest London. Eastern Electricity said the squirrel managed to force its way into powerful transformer equipment, causing it to explode. The animal did not survive.

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

TWO men were under armed guard in hospital yesterday after being shot in a battle between rival gangs involved in cross-Channel beer smuggling.

The two men were shot within 20 minutes of each other as part of a feud between groups in Dover and larger gangs based in cities in northern England.

One man was shot in the legs with a shotgun near the Orange Tree pub in Dover, and a second man was shot in the back and shoulder as he ran away. Both were taken to the Kent and Canterbury Hospital where their condition was said to be stable. They are expected to be discharged tomorrow.

Both men are in their thirties and from the Dover area. They are being to trace a car seen speeding from the area near the shootings early on Saturday morning.

Kent police said: "We have reason to believe that the two injured men were involved in the illegal importation of beer from France."

Last night the Dover and district Licensed Victuallers' Association gave warning of more violence linked to the rivalry between gangs attempting to carve a slice of the lucrative cross-Channel drink smuggling racket.

Jackie Bowles, chairwoman of the association, said that trouble had been bubbling away for some time because gangs from cities such as Liverpool and Newcastle upon Tyne wanted to drive out locally based groups.

"We have seen this kind of trouble coming for some time and it will get worse. We are getting a mafia-style society down here in which one gang wants to be bigger than the next gang and wants to control more of the bootlegging. The big boys are now in Dover," she said.

Mrs Bowles cited incidents involving gangs, including in-

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

THE danger of developing a highly malignant type of skin cancer as a result of sunburning is exaggerated, according to two Newcastle University professors of dermatology who have studied the epidemiology of melanomas.

They attribute this to doctors' lack of understanding of the way in which the incidence of many solid-cell tumours varies over the years, and from skin-cream manufacturers' eagerness to sell their wares.

However, sunbathers would still be well advised to interpret the professors' remarks with caution. The Newcastle dermatologists agree with their colleagues that rodent ulcers and squamous cell cancers, the two most common skin cancers which are comparatively easily treated, are the result of exposure to sun.

Any dispute with the ma-

jury of doctors revolves around malignant melanoma — cancerous moles. Statistics show that those who are most at risk are the holiday sunbathers who are usually office-bound and bare their skin to heavy doses of ultraviolet radiation for only a few weeks each year. Those who have an all-year-around tan are less vulnerable. Excessive tanning in childhood, at a time when the skin is very pale and soft, is considered an additional risk factor.

Few doctors think that exposure to sun is the only

factor in the development of melanoma. As the level of pigment of the skin offers protection it is not surprising that the incidence of melanoma varies inversely to the amount of skin pigmentation, which is genetically determined.

People who have inherited reddish hair and a pale white skin, like many Celtic races, are most at risk. In American blacks, too, African races have a high incidence, though black Americans possibly because the feet are more often exposed to the sun and minor tra-

ma: they are liable to develop the tumours at the junction of pigmented and non-pigmented areas of their feet.

More than half of the malignant melanomas arise from an existing mole, or other pigmented patches. Families that tend to have large numbers of moles — particularly if many of these are rough-surfaced and irregularly edged, known as dysplastic naevi — and a history of melanomas, run at risk.

also play a part in the formation of malignant melanoma.

We can do nothing about our genetic make-up, which gives us our skin type and the number and type of moles, but we can avoid getting sunburnt, or allowing our children to do so, and so lessen our risk of developing skin cancer.

[illegible]

Cornwall: traffic black spot ahead

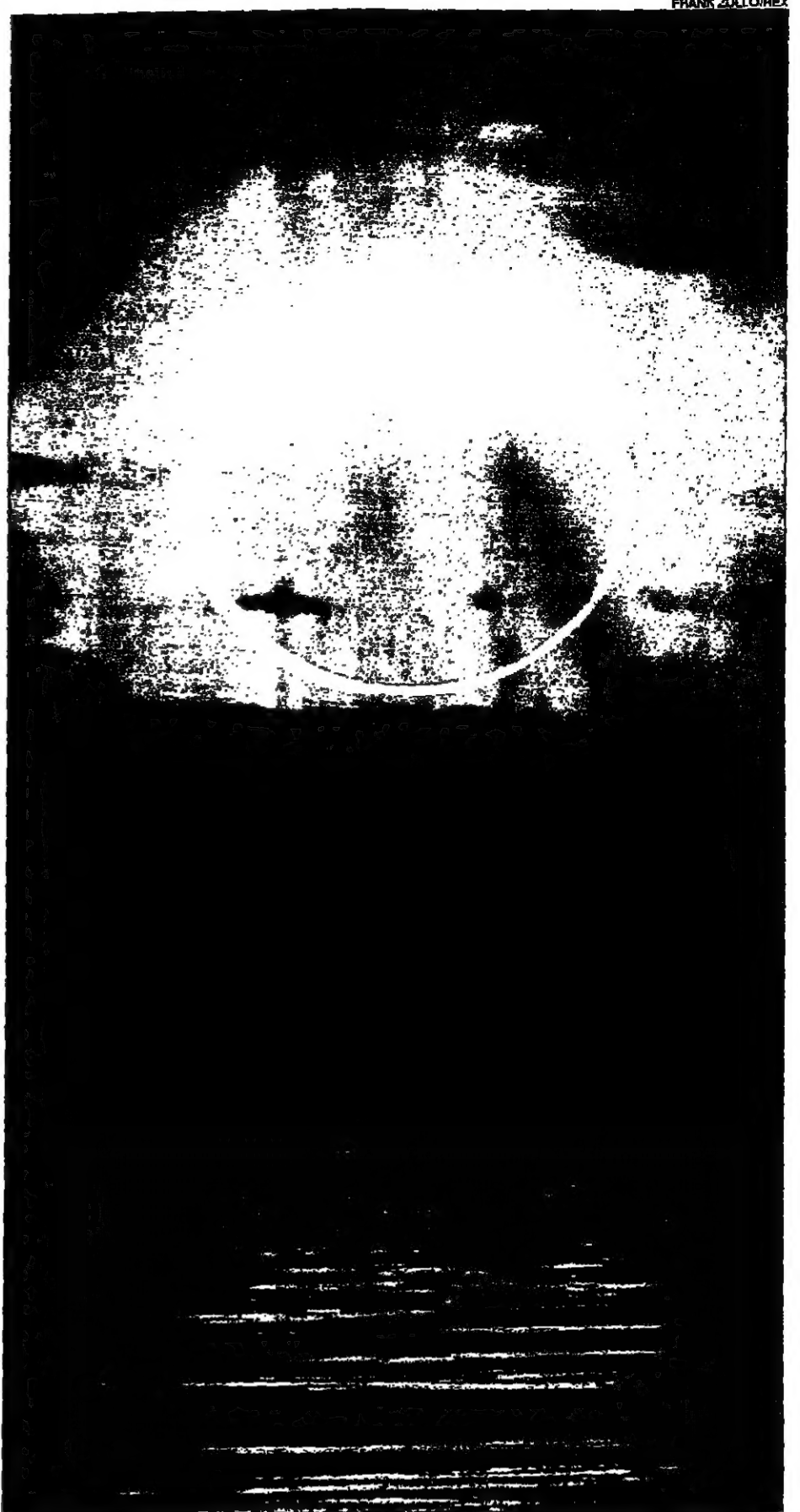
1997 ECLIPSE
GOLDEN HALO ROUNDED OFF
OF DARKNESS
LARGE OF THIS MONTH'S
ROYAL



The first total
solar eclipse
since 1927 could
gridlock the
South West,
writes Simon
de Bruxelles



In the dark how the *News of the World*, above left, reported the eclipse of 1927, which was watched by these nurses. A full solar eclipse is unforgettable, as this photograph, right, taken in California in 1992, shows



CORNWALL is bracing itself for the biggest traffic jam in its history in 1999, when more than half a million extra visitors are expected to arrive to watch Britain's first total solar eclipse for 70 years.

The eclipse will reach totality at 11.11am on Monday August 11, 1999, with the central line passing through St Just, near Land's End, to Falmouth. The area will be plunged into darkness for approximately two minutes and six seconds.

Visitors are expected in their thousands from as far as Japan and America to view the last total eclipse of the millennium. Many hotels have already been booked by travel companies.

But even without the added attraction of the eclipse, the West Country will be overcrowded. "No vacancy" signs and queues across Cornwall this Bank Holiday weekend gave motorists a taste of things to come. More alarmist planners warned yesterday that, unless emergency measures were introduced, tens of thousands could be trapped for days without food or water.

Cornwall Tourist Board spokesman Roy Standing, who sits on the county's emergency planning committee alongside representatives from the police, fire and ambulance services, said: "I don't think many people realise quite how big this is going to be. The last total eclipse in Britain in 1927 passed across North Wales and Yorkshire and it still holds the record for the greatest number of trains

chartered in a single day. In the second week of August, Cornwall is already full. There are no bed spaces available and that includes hotels, guest houses and camping sites. We will be quite unable to meet the demands imposed by half a million extra visitors. One US travel agent has already taken five medium-sized hotels of 60 rooms each and I expect every available room in Cornwall to be booked by the start of the season."

Planners have decided that simply putting up "No Vacancy" signs and closing bridges across the Tamar is not an option. Instead they are considering massive temporary

camp sites and road closures and introducing Britain's longest one-way system to keep traffic flowing.

Britain's leading expert on eclipses, John Parkinson, director of the school of science and mathematics at Sheffield Hallam University, said: "Come the day you will find the whole country wrapped up in eclipse mania. Seeing an eclipse at home is the experience of a lifetime."

"I have organised expeditions to study six total eclipses in the past 20 years but until now they have all been on the other side of the world. This is not like the excitement over Hale-Bopp. This is something

you can't miss. If you are in southwest England the Sun is going out completely and mid-morning will become mid-night."

Professor Parkinson believes hysteria will begin to mount around two weeks before the actual event. Many people will set off a week or so in advance but many more will decide to go on the spur of the moment. His department has produced the estimate of 500,000 extra visitors on the basis of previous eclipses in America and elsewhere. He said yesterday that the figure could be an underestimate.

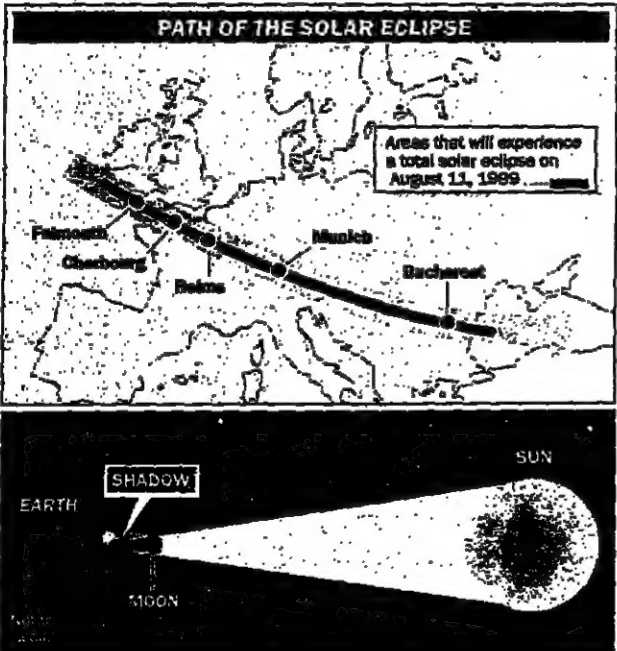
Although skies will darken across Britain, only in the tip of the southwest peninsula will the sun be blotted out completely. Professor Parkinson said: "In Exeter, the eclipse will be 99.6 per cent total but I can assure you that the extra 0.6 per cent is worth all the effort it will take to witness it."

"Who is going to stay in Exeter — or Bristol or London for that matter — when by travelling those extra few miles you can witness something that will still be talked about in 70 years' time? I have spoken to many people who saw the 1927 eclipse and it is something that has stayed with them all their lives. They can remember precisely where they were standing when they saw it even though they might have been only ten years old."

A series of events is being planned across Cornwall to coincide with the eclipse. But the most dramatic will be the revival of three medieval pas-

sion plays, found in the Bodleian Library, which have not been performed for more than 200 years.

The *Passio Domini*, written in Cornish in 1388, will culminate in the eclipse darkening the crucifixion scene on the mound outside Perranporth where the plays were originally performed. The climax was suggested by the author D.M. Thomas and will give the Cornish version an impact that the producers of other passion plays, such as Oberammergau in Bavaria, can only dream of.



Record numbers will see 'dragon devour the Sun'

Cities from Cherbourg to Bucharest will go dark, writes Simon de Bruxelles

THE last total solar eclipse of the millennium will be witnessed by more people than any other in history. Although its first landfall will be the north Cornish coast, the shadow cast will black out a heavily populated path from Britain to Romania. Total eclipse will be experienced in the cities of Cherbourg, Reims, Stuttgart, Munich and Bucharest.

Although there are total solar eclipses on average every 18 to 24 months, they are just as likely to occur over the oceans or the polar regions as over populated areas.

Throughout history all eclipses have been regarded as ill omens and the solar eclipse as the most ominous of all. Both the ancient Greeks and the Romans thought they presaged disaster and in Rome public assemblies were banned when they occurred.

The Chinese, Lapts, and Persians would bang drums and kettles to scare off the dragon they believed was devouring the Sun. In Medi-



Solar eclipses inspired the writer Rider Haggard, left, and led to the award of the Nobel Prize to Einstein, right, for his Theory of Relativity

co, an eclipse was thought to be the result of quarrels between the Sun and Moon. But for science, a solar eclipse offers the chance to study the Sun's corona and other phenomena. In 1919, an observation during an eclipse that the Sun's gravity caused light from distant stars to bend was the first proof of Albert Einstein's

revolutionary Theory of Relativity and led to him receiving the Nobel Prize. Professor Parkinson's expeditions to observe eclipses have gathered precise data about otherwise unobservable changes in the size of the Sun.

Eclipses have also inspired authors from Shakespeare to H. Rider Haggard, whose

hero's prediction of an eclipse surrounded the natives in *King Solomon's Mines*.

Although the Moon is very much smaller than the Sun its relative closeness to the Earth means there is only half a degree difference in their apparent diameters. When the three bodies are aligned in solar eclipse the Moon's shadow, known as its umbra, can black out a circular area on the Earth's surface up to 167 miles in diameter, although most umbras are far smaller. A further area up to 3,000 miles in diameter is obscured by the penumbra, an area of semi-darkness.

The Moon's shadow travels eastwards at a speed of between 1,000-2,000 miles an hour, depending on the speed of the Earth's rotation. In theory the speed and size could result in a total eclipse up to 7½ minutes long, but this occurs only once in several thousand years. The length of total darkness depends also on where the observer is standing in relation to the centre line of totality.

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Volcano aid from Britain 'misdirected'

Islanders say funds would be better spent giving them a chance to rebuild, reports David Adams in Woodlands

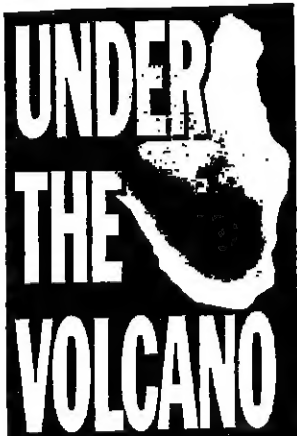
THE Chief Minister of Montserrat accused the Government yesterday of failing to honour its legal obligations to the tiny Caribbean dependency, whose dwindling population was being left "to choose between misery and the unknown".

David Brandt, a lawyer who was sworn in as head of Montserrat's Government on Friday, said: "We should not be put in a position like this by the Mother Country." He said Britain had left Montserrat "clutching at straws".

He was reacting to comments over the weekend by Clare Short, the Secretary of State for International Development, who said his Government's pleas for financial help were "sheer irresponsibility". "They will be wanting golden elephants next," she said.

"I think it is distressing to hear a lady of her position making pontifical statements about Montserrat," Mr Brandt said. "All we are asking for is a chance to rebuild our lives... and they are not giving us that chance."

He repeated an earlier offer to Mrs Short to visit the island "to see for herself the way people are suffering here". He said he was disappointed that



UNDER THE VOLCANO

she had declined the offer. "I wonder if she can't bear what she would see here."

He said much of the £41 million spent by Britain in aid for the volcano crisis has been eaten up by administrative costs — running helicopters, ferries and scientific studies of the volcano — rather than the direct needs of the island's inhabitants. "All the money is being spent on the volcano. That is not a benefit directly to the people," he said.

Despite a British-organised voluntary evacuation which began on Saturday, Mr Brandt said that many of the 5,000 people still on the island

wanted to stay. He said that Britain should help to preserve and rebuild the infrastructure of the remaining safe areas of the island. British scientists on the island have said that the volcano is likely to remain highly active for months, but they say the northern end of the island is relatively safe.

British officials say that about 800 islanders have registered for the voluntary relocation scheme, which will take them either to Britain or other Caribbean islands. So far only 12 people have left.

Mr Brandt said the money would be better spent on building new housing for those wishing to remain. "We understand it [the British Government] is not a miracle worker... but it should build houses for people to live in," he said. He was especially upset by the halting of work on a British project to refurbish the island's only hospital, which is barely able to function.

"If it does not offer the people a real chance to develop the infrastructure and housing, and continue to repair the roads, it will only be paying lip service to the development of Montserrat," he said.

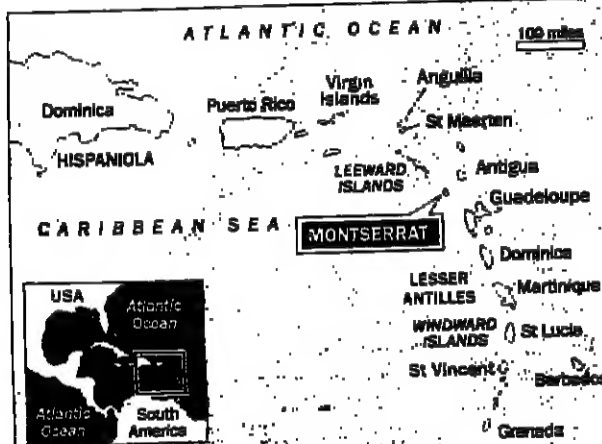
As Britain presses ahead with the voluntary evacuation of Montserrat — due to continue today — local resistance is building to what many see as an attempt by the authorities in London to undermine the economic viability of their island. "It seems like every door is closed to us," said Mike Emmanuel, a Montserratian businessman who moved to the island several years ago. "The feeling is that they are trying to undermine the country and force us out."

Mr Emmanuel is a member of a National Consultative Forum, which was founded on Friday by representatives of the island's private and public sectors who are determined not

to abandon the island. High on their list of concerns is the fear that they will soon be left without insurance. Two Caribbean-based insurance companies have already announced their intentions to cancel existing contracts on Thursday.

Mr Emmanuel, who owns a villa, said local property holders were considering a class action against the insurers if they lose their coverage. He said he paid almost £2,000 in June for his 8½-acre property. "I'd like to know what's going on," he said.

"It's like being knocked down and then someone kicks you on the ground," said Alphonsus Cassell, better known as Arrow, Montserrat's "King of Calypso". Arrow, who wrote one of the most popular disco hits, *Hot, Hot, Hot*, said he recently paid £25,000 for his home and business. "They have taken our money for years. It's a worse blow almost than the volcano," he said. But Arrow added that he has no intention of leaving. "There is still a lot of hope in this country. Even if we have to survive on a third of the island we will." Leaving no doubt of his intentions he has recorded a song, titled *I Just Can't Run Away*.



Montserratians lining up to leave on Saturday. Few have left so far, but 800 have accepted the British Government's relocation offer

Short is known for her frank style

CLARE SHORT'S political obituary has been written many times because of her propensity to air views which are frequently not in harmony with those of the Labour leadership.

While Labour was in opposition, Ms Short, now the International Development Secretary, resigned from the Labour front bench on two occasions because of disagreements over policy.

Last year, when she had been in the Labour front bench for less than a year, she told an Internet magazine that she would not answer "because that will lead to everyone on the Labour front bench being asked and then some will have to confess or lie."

In another interview she called for a debate about the decriminalisation of the drug. Shortly before the election, she was rebuked by John Prescott when she broke with party policy by declaring that it would be fair for people on her level of income to pay more tax.

In an interview in the *New Statesman*, she criticised Labour spin-doctors — "the people who live in the dark" — whom she believed wielded too much influence.

Last week it was disclosed that she had once described the proposed Greenwich millennium dome "as a silly temporary building".

She blames many of her setbacks on the journalists who report her remarks. "Journalists are not always given a chance to do so. Last year, asked about Labour's attitude to a Tube strike, she stormed out of a television studio during a live interview. Shortly afterwards, Tony Blair demoted her from the shadow transport portfolio to international development."

She wrote: "If I had a daughter I would not advise her to go into politics. It is too nasty and hurtful."



Foulkes gave up whisky after his fall

GEORGE FOULKES, the man at the centre of the diplomatic row with Montserrat, had an even more celebrated clash with the authorities four years ago, which put a question mark over his political career.

Clare Short's deputy at International Development became the most unpopular man on Montserrat, who had read a report from the island's Volcano Observatory, he declared, "there could be a catastrophic and destructive eruption" which would "wipe out the island".

Mr Foulkes, a former and popular chairman of Westminster's Conservative Club, vowed the same day never to touch a drop of Scotland's national drink again. He toasted his return from the wilderness with a drink of orange juice on the House of Commons terrace.

"I still drink beer and wine," he said. "But I have given whisky a miss." In 1993 he had been banned for a year for a drink-driving offence.



Lawyer pleads insanity for Israeli who killed Briton

FROM ROSS DUNN IN JERUSALEM

THE Israeli man who police said confessed to killing a Briton and wounding his girlfriend in the Negev desert has been videotaped reenacting the crime at the scene of the shooting.

Daniel Okef, 45, a lorry driver and a major in the Israeli army reserves, reportedly told the police that he may suffer from a split personality. His lawyers said that Okef may have been temporarily insane.

Max Hunter, 22, a law graduate of Banstead, Surrey, died instantly and Charlotte Gibb, 20, a business student at Durham University, was seriously wounded after Okef opened fire on them without warning. He had given them a lift outside the Red Sea resort of Eilat and began shooting his passengers when they stopped to smoke.

Okef told the police: "I remember hearing shots fired and the gun was in my hand. I know I hit them because they fell. I don't remember how many shots were fired at them." He said he was unable to give any motive for the crime.

He said that as the three smoked, he stood at the cliff edge and pointed out the constellations of stars as Mr Hunter translated the Hebrew for Miss Gibb. Okef returned to the car and asked Miss Gibb and Mr Hunter to get

back inside. As the couple turned towards the car, Okef picked up a gun from under his seat and shot at them. Mr Hunter, who was shot twice, fell to the ground and died instantly.

Okef drove back towards Eilat. He stopped at a kibbutz, where he took the hitchhikers' bags out of the car and burnt them. At Tabat, he parked at the border crossing and went into Egypt on foot. He spent the night at a casino at the Hilton Hotel in Tabat.

Next day he collected his car to drive home to the Israeli north coast town of Eilat. Although he was driving a suspected Peugeot 309, he was allowed to pass a police roadblock after saying he was a major in the army reserves. Police later traced the car and arrested him.

Okef's wife, Matoka, said: "He can't explain what happened. It is not like him; he never shouted or lifted a finger against the children or anyone else. It must have been a moment of madness — he didn't hide anything, clean the car or throw away the gun."

His lawyer, David Ishay, said: "The only explanation seems to be that the Okefs were suffering from what is known as temporary insanity, which means he might have done it but he does not know what he did and he does not remember that he did it."

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Ian Brodie spends his dollars at America's best kept shopping secret — on lost luggage booty in Scottsboro, Alabama

BARGAIN hunters were packing the aisles yesterday at the Unclaimed Baggage Centre, a one-of-a-kind department store where lost airline luggage starts a new life.

It is not something airlines like to talk about, but the small town of Scottsboro in the Appalachian foothills has what Oprah Winfrey calls America's best kept shopping secret. There are bargains galore from around the world — Hermes scarves for the equivalent of £30, Burberry overcoats for £50, Vuarnet sunglasses for £12, Roller-blades for £15.

Princess tennis rackets for a fiver, all either new or slightly used. In their eagerness to snap up good buys, shoppers hardly pause to think how it was lost in the first place. How did a wedding dress come to be here? Or an altar the size of a wardrobe? Or a set of antlers?

The merchandise comes from baggage that has gone unclaimed by airline passengers for more than 90 days, plus articles left on planes or in airports and a growing volume of unclaimed air freight. Fewer than five suitcases in a thousand go missing. Of these, 98 per cent are returned within five days. Of the 2 per cent remaining, half are returned within 90 days, leaving fewer than 50 bags in a million that are never reunited with their owners.

One man who recently bought a set of golf clubs from the Unclaimed Baggage Centre found the name and address of the man they had belonged to hidden at the bottom of the bag. He gave him a call and offered to return the clubs. "No, keep them and enjoy them," said the original owner. "The airline paid my claim and I have an even better set now."

American airlines pay up to \$1,250 (£780) to passengers for lost bags, so perhaps some are not too distraught at never

seeing their possessions again. In Britain, compensation is far less generous — £12.50 a kilo. The Unclaimed Baggage Centre throws out about a fifth of the items it gets as unusable and donates a third to charities. The rest goes on sale at 20 to 50 per cent of its original retail value. There is masses of it. A wall of sunglasses, two walls of cameras, a trunkload of Walkmans, dozens of CDs, display cases filled with jewellery, both paste and genuine, shoes, camping equipment, lots of suitcases and rack upon rack of clothing.

Among the oddest items received was an Egyptian burial mask from a pharaoh's tomb. Another case contained signed and numbered Salvador Dali prints. A ship-

ping tube was a hiding place for \$240,000 in cash. An original painting sold by the shop for \$50 was later valued at \$10,000.

A local pensioner says he visits every day, sometimes twice, on the lookout for Christmas presents. I admit to buying two cameras at half price. There are thousands of customers every week and many drive hundreds of miles, including British tourists from Florida.

The shop was opened in 1970 by Doyle Owens, an insurance man who sold lost property for bus companies. Airlines were a natural progression. The firm is now run by his son, Bryan, who has added two other branches.

The Unclaimed Baggage Centre refuses to identify its airline suppliers, saying contracts with them are confidential. British Airways is not among them. It sends lost baggage to Heathrow where, after all tracing is exhausted, spectacles go to Third World countries and suitable books to children's homes. All other unclaimed items are sent to Wentworth Auction Gallery with proceeds going to charity.



A bridal dress is among the bargains at the Unclaimed Baggage Centre, as are fashion items from top label designers and elegant suits. Fewer than 50 bags in a million fail to find their way back to their owners in America, and those that do not end up at the centre after 90 days. Prices are heavily discounted — by up to 80 per cent



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A European dream mired in the past

The British Embassy in Bonn used to be a cozy backwater, an ugly building in a small town in Germany.

John le Carré garlanded it in fog and credibly presented the embassy as a microcosm of the British caste system. When I first corresponded from Bonn, 20 years ago, the diplomatic village seemed to be underemployed, undernourished and under anaesthetic. I was long-stop in the cricket team and so speak with authority.

Nowadays the embassy sometimes seems to have the fizz of a think-tank. Others will challenge this, but for my money it has become the most intellectually fertile of British embassies in Europe.

Ambassadors have set the tone — Nigel Broomfield recently retired, Chris Meyer, new, but on his way to Washington — and the squat factory-like house bursts with expertise.

Perhaps the foreign service has changed over the years in some subtle, useful way. Perhaps, defying all the odds, Bonn has become interesting. Certainly Germany is bigger and occupies the position of a regional power, yet its once formidable Government is falling apart. The combination of these two factors — real power and uncertain strategy — makes Bonn more intriguing than it has been for years, more open to speculation and more sensitive to diplomacy.

Paradoxes stimulate and

INSIDE GERMANY



BY ROGER BOYES

there is no greater paradox than Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor. Even before German unification he tried to recast the country as a "normal" alliance partner. The world now accepts the idea of German soldiers shooting for peace and even a Germany advancing its own national interests.

The price of normality was tighter integration within Europe. What has happened to Herr Kohl's Europe? The ideal has been barely refined since the 1960s. The Continent remains dependent on a Franco-German alliance that has been drained of meaning by 50 years of peace: it is a constraining Europe that looks inwards as it expands outwards.

The loss of sensible vision, a kind of Euro-conjunctivitis, combined with a revival of national priorities — witness German stubbornness on immigration in Amsterdam, its calls for a budget rebate, its addition to Euro subsidies —

is impossible to square with France. It demands a pragmatic third, Enter Britain, which takes over the European presidency in the first half of 1998.

The sudden need for a third partner partly explains the rebirth of British diplomacy as well as the market rumour about Britain brokering a delay in the euro. But the fact is that Germany has become hungry for strategic ideas, clues to a future which does not have to make reference to French fears of an assemblage Germany.

That is what appeals to Bonn about a *Demos* paper by Robert Cooper. Formerly head of the policy planning staff at the Foreign Office, Mr Cooper is Minister at the Bonn embassy. His paper *The Post-Modern State and the World Order* has injected some breadth and some life in the stagnant debates of German foreign policy experts.

Mr Cooper says "there have been three successive sets of alternatives in world politics: between chaos and empire; then, after the Treaty of Westphalia in 1648, between empire and nationalism. In 1989 the watershed brought by German unity, which forced a rethink of traditional balancing mechanisms, the choice is between nationalism and integration. Pre-modern societies (Somalia, Afghanistan, chunks of the former Soviet

Union) based on the past or chaos.

Once imperial rulers could have bridged the gap between past and future, now nobody can. Cores and shells are left to rot. Modern states seek to preserve order through the class balance of power. Meanwhile the post-modern states — whose internationalist cooperation breaks down barriers between states — is shaping the world's future.

This handy taxonomy opens the way for new thinking about a new world. A new modern policy, one example, can take into account the moral factors. Robert Cooper seems to be adopting this idea as his own.

Where does this leave Herr Kohl's European blueprint? Distinctly suspect, like a pleasant that has hung too long. "The dream is over," says Mr Cooper. "There is no assumption that nation states are fundamentally good."

German Europe in its current design is hopelessly out of date.

■ **Bonn:** A German government spokesman yesterday denied newspaper reports that Herr Kohl was about to drop. The Waigel, his Finance Minister, and sources in Herr Kohl's party said he would choose his own time for a reshuffle. (Reuters)



Annalisa Minetti, Miss Lombardy, with her mother, Filomena, after she won a chance to compete in the final of the Miss Italy beauty contest

Miss Italy favourite is blind blonde

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

The once brutal and old-fashioned Miss Italy beauty contest, which last year caused controversy when a mixed-race contestant unexpectedly won, yesterday hit the headlines again when it emerged that this year's favourite is a blind girl, a Gypsy who once begged on the streets, a married woman with a baby daughter and two sets of identical twins.

The growing favourite to win the contest, which takes place on September 6 in the northern spa town of Salsomaggiore near Parma, is Annalisa Minetti, 20, from Milan, signorina Minetti is blind, but had taken part in several beauty contests without anyone in the audience realising she was blind.

After winning her place in the Miss Italy final by becoming Miss Lombardy at the weekend, signorina Minetti revealed both her disability, and her secret weapon: her boyfriend Paolo, who directs her steps on stage through a radio transmitter hidden in her car. "He tells me go right here, go left there, watch out for the steps," she said.

Last year's contest was won by Denny Mendez, a 19-year-old from the Dominican Republic whose mother had married an Italian and acquired Italian citizenship. Under new rules contestants must now have at least one "native born" parent.

Italians rally to defend town with Disraeli links

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

JEWISH groups have joined forces with environmentalists to campaign against the planned redevelopment of the dilapidated Jewish quarter at Cento, northern Italy, where Benjamin Disraeli's grandfather was born.

The campaigners said they had appealed to the Prince of Wales to intervene, "because of his interest in Italy and architecture". Klaus Davi, who runs the Milan advertising agency that is leading the campaign, said: "We know that Prince Charles is concerned about the way we treat our historic town centres."

The campaigners claim that the Jewish quarter has been sold to developers who intend to turn historic dwellings into flats, offices and garages "of unsuitable character" that will destroy "memory and identity". The former house of the local rabbi is included in the developers' plans.

Advertisements in Italian magazines claim that the developers "are succeeding where Goebbels failed" and are "selling memories by the square metre". According to one advertisement: "Fifty years after the Holocaust, Jews are threatened not by the gas chambers and concentration camps but by market forces. The most beautiful ghettos of Italy are disappearing."

Cento, a town of 30,000 near



Disraeli: "climbed to the top of the greasy pole"

Ferrara, is best known as the birthplace of the 17th-century painter of the Bolognese school known as Guercino da Cento ("the squinter of Cento"). But it is also the birthplace of Disraeli's grandfather, also Benjamin, who spelt his surname D'Israeli. He left Cento in 1748 for London, where he became a successful businessman and Stock Exchange member.

Benjamin Disraeli, who became Britain's Prime Minister for the first time in 1868, was born in 1804, the second child of Benjamin D'Israeli's eldest son, Isaac, who fell out with his local synagogue in 1813 and had his children baptised as Christians. Since Jews were excluded from Parliament until 1858, biographers regard this as crucial to Disraeli's subsequent rise to what he called "the top of the greasy pole".

La Stampa said the small Jewish quarter, a few streets in the heart of Cento, was in a dilapidated state and had been sold for redevelopment. Paolo Fava, the mayor, said he was "amazed at all the fuss and uproar", adding: "The plans have been properly scrutinised and approved by the Superintendent for Architecture in Ravenna and by the Ministry of Culture in Rome."

But Signor Davi said that, although the plans had been officially approved, the ghetto would be ruined. "We will see houses which belonged to rabbis, old Jewish shops and even places of worship transformed into parking lots, luxury flats, studios and offices," he said. The site has been valued at £6 million.

Andrea Tonus, an architect acting for Lega Ambiente, the leading environmental group, said the development was "pure building speculation. They are going to knock down arches of inestimable value just to allow lorries to have access to the site, and pull up old flooring, wrought-iron balconies and stucco work — centuries of history."

WORLD SUMMARY

Stronghold attacked in Cambodia

Phnom Penh: The Cambodian border town of Osmach, the last stronghold of troops loyal to Cambodia's ousted First Prime Minister, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, looked likely to fall to government forces (Caroline Gluck writes). Thai officials said royalist troops were forced back towards the Thai border after forces loyal to Cambodia's strongman, Hun Sen, advanced with heavy artillery.

Algeria toll rises

Paris: Suspected Muslim rebels killed 30 civilians in two Algerian villages, the Algerian press reported. Two bomb blasts on a train on Saturday killed eight others and wounded 22. (Reuters)

Driving test

Athens: Greek police began a tough new tactic to combat the death toll on roads at weekends — confiscating cars of drunken drivers on the spot. The action was suggested by a magistrate last week.

Aegean sinking

Athens: Seven people were reported missing in the eastern Aegean Sea after their yacht caught fire and sank near the island of Lesbos on Saturday. They include two young children.

Festival marred

Ankara: Forty-eight people were injured when a crowded platform at Darica, 30 miles east of Istanbul, collapsed during a boys' circumcision celebration, the Anatolia news agency reported. (AP)

Minefield peril

Athens: Two Greek soldiers were killed in a minefield close to Greece's border with Turkey and Bulgaria, military authorities said. The soldiers had gone to investigate noises while on patrol. (AFP)

Torture inquiry reopened

BY RICHARD OWEN

IN VIEW of "new evidence", Beniamino Andreotta, the Italian Defence Minister, yesterday ordered the reopening of the inquiry into allegations of torture by Italian troops while they were stationed in Somalia.

The allegations first came to light earlier this year in *Panorama*, the weekly news magazine, which published photographs that it said showed Italian troops torturing and raping Somali civilians during the UN peace-keeping operation in the country four years ago. Two official investigations, one by

the Defence Ministry and one by a joint civil-military commission, both concluded that torture incidents had been "isolated".

But the issue continues to haunt Italy and fresh allegations have been brought by Francesco Alois, a former sergeant-major in the Tuscania paratroop regiment, who kept a diary during his service in Somalia. He says incidents of torture were far more widespread than has been revealed, and accuses the authorities of a cover-up.

Signor Alois claims that General Bruno Lot, the Italian commanding officer in Somalia, was aware of the

misconduct. He also suggests that Ilaria Alpi, an Italian woman journalist who was murdered in Somalia in March 1993, may have been killed because she had stumbled on proof of torture and other misconduct.

The Defence Ministry strongly denies any military involvement in her death, but her murder has become a cause célèbre and her parents want a full inquiry.

□ **Mogadishu:** At least 17 people were killed in clan fighting in southern Somalia and the self-declared Somaliland republic in the north of the country, residents said yesterday. (Reuters)

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SALE OFFERS AND 3 YEARS PEACE OF MIND? THAT'LL BE THE DAEWOO

Moi threatens to deal with foreign 'spies'

By SAM KILEY, AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

PRESIDENT MOI of Kenya toured scenes of violence on the coast which has left at least 42 dead.

His weekend visit met with a lukewarm reception from the Kikuyus, who have been the main victims of the slaughter in the past few days, after a fortnight of "ethnic cleansing" of opposition tribesmen.

Shying away from any explanation for the violence, Mr Moi appealed to foreign investors and tourists to visit Kenya, which has been rocked by months of violent protest in the run-up to elections later this year.

"Kenya is for all Kenyans. You have the right to live where you want. No one has the right to push you off your land," Mr Moi told about 1,500 displaced people sheltering at a church compound, where two were killed and a policeman wounded by machine-gunning killers last Thursday.

An armed group raided the Likoni police station two weeks ago, killing six officers and stealing 40 powerful automatic rifles. Since then the sleepy peace of Kenya's coast has been shattered by attacks on "up-country" settlers in the area, mainly Opposition-supporting Kikuyus running beach hotels and small businesses.

The chaos which has engulfed Mombasa and other coastal resorts is a typical brew of Kenyan politics in which the Government is suspected of exploiting tribal rivalries to drive opposition supporters into their home

areas, leaving only supporters of the Kenya African National Union (KANU) in important constituencies.

From Malindi, 90 miles north of Mombasa, to the tourist havens as far south as Musambweni, people have been slaughtered with bows and arrows and bullets. They have been burnt out of their homes while police have fought pitched battles with groups of up to 500 men.

Mr Moi claims that leading opposition figures, many of whom have been arrested, and "foreigners" are behind the chaos which could ruin Kenya's already weakened tourist industry, the nation's biggest employer.

"These people and foreigners have been coming into the country to cause chaos. We know them by name and will take action... Some foreigners have also come posing as businessmen, but they are spies and we will deal with them," Mr Moi said.

The origin of the violence lies in the bulldozed Kwale forest, graves that have been sacred to the Mijikenda tribal group for centuries, which were flattened to make way for tourist developments for the benefit of Mr Moi's KANU stalwarts.

Mr Moi's tribe, the Kalenjin, also come from Kenya's interior, but the land-grabbing by his supporters has focused hatred on any up-country settler, especially Kikuyus.

Worst hit by land-grabbers have been Waa and Diani. An ancient mosque is also under

threat from developers who "grabbed" land which, like the Kwale forest, had been gazetted as a national monument.

The tighter fiscal controls imposed by the International Monetary Fund made it difficult for corrupt KANU grandees to plunder the Treasury. So President Moi and his cronies in State House turned to land-grabbing as an alternative source of personal enrichment.

Most of Kenya's land is owned by the Government, including all national parks, school grounds, forests and monuments. The grab is simple. A pro-Moi activist is rewarded for his work with a presidential decree handing him the deeds to former government property. This has included large areas that are already inhabited.



Children shelter with their belongings in the Catholic church in Likoni after being driven out of their homes in the recent violence

Plea for calm after Kaunda is fired on

By SAM KILEY

OPPOSITION groups appealed for calm among supporters after Kenneth Kaunda, the former President, and another anti-government campaigner were shot by police breaking up a rally.

Yesterday a senior diplomat in Lusaka, the capital, said that there was a "frightening air of tension" in the city.

The teargas and bullets used against Dr Kaunda on Saturday could mean the end of what has been seen as a textbook for democracy in Britain's former African colonies.

Dr Kaunda, 73, who was grazed by a police bullet, is still venerated by most Zambians as the man who peacefully stepped aside after losing elections in 1991 to Frederick Chiluba. His often misguided blend of Christianity, socialism and "African values" turned the former Northern Rhodesia into a beggar among nations until he bowed to internal and external pressure to allow political pluralism.

On Saturday, 21 of his supporters were arrested and Roger Chongwe, leader of the Liberal Progressive Front, was shot in the neck in Kabwe, 90 miles north of the capital, in the most violent



Kaunda: barred from standing for presidency

crackdown against opposition leaders since the elections.

Dr Kaunda was often the target of unsuccessful South African military missions into Zambia, where he provided a home for the African National Congress during apartheid.

The shooting of the former President came ten days after rioting in Lusaka when street vendors resisted a police crackdown on illegal trading.

Last year President Chiluba, Dr Kaunda's successor, amended the Constitution to exclude anyone who was not born of Zambian parents from running for the office. The move came after Dr Kaunda's return to politics.

The former President, who is of Malawian parentage, immediately called for a national civil disobedience campaign to force the Government to repeal the constitutional amendment. The campaign was similar to the one demanding independence from Britain that he launched with the Northern Rhodesia African National Congress in 1949.

London witness for Stompie hearing

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN JOHANNESBURG

THE key witness who was to have given evidence in the Winnie Mandela "Stompie" trial in 1991 will return to South Africa from Britain soon to appear before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, when he will give evidence about the alleged involvement of President Mandela's former wife in human rights abuses.

A former member of Mrs Mandela's notorious Mandela United Football Club, Kaitza Cebekulu disappeared just before the trial started. He went to Lusaka and then surfaced in London where he has since been under the protection of Emma Nicholson, the former Liberal Democrat MP. He is said to have intimate knowledge of the murder of Stompie Moeketsi Sepedi, a youth activist, and other youths that allegedly were carried out on the orders of Mrs Mandela.

The news could not have come at a worse time for Mrs Mandela, who has been subpoenaed to appear before a commission hearing at which she will be questioned about her former vigilante group and her alleged links to the disappearance of other youth activists in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Besides the legal implications, the possible fallout threatens to spoil Mrs Mandela's attempts to revive her political fortunes in the wake of her recent re-election as leader of the ANC's Women's League and reported attempts to secure the post of ANC deputy president at the party's conference this year.

Although Mr Cebekulu's evidence was never heard, Mrs Mandela was found guilty, in March 1991, of kidnapping Stompie and three other youths; on appeal, she was ordered to pay a fine.

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Teamsters link in Democrat fund scandal

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

THE Justice Department was last night investigating whether Democratic Party officials improperly directed contributions to an American union in return for donations to President Clinton's re-election campaign.

The latest embarrassment for the White House came after the Government on Friday threw out last year's re-election of Ron Carey as president of the Teamsters, the union with a membership of 1.4 million, and ordered a new vote. A federal investigation found that a "complex network of schemes" was used to finance illegally his narrow victory over James Hoffa, son of the legendary union leader, Jimmy Hoffa, in a secret ballot last November.

A new election will once again pit Mr Hoffa against

Mr Carey and is certain to tarnish the American labour movement, which only last week was basking in the successful outcome of the Teamsters strike against United Parcel Service, the country's biggest package carrier.

In political terms, the latest revelations are potentially highly damaging for both the Democratic Party and the White House. They come amid continuing hearings into irregular fundraising by the Clinton-Gore campaign, and the dual controversies of Whitewater and the trial next May of the Paula Jones sexual harassment suit against the President.

Documents being examined by the Justice Department show that officials at the Democratic National Committee (DNC) discussed rais-

ing substantial sums for Mr Carey's re-election last year.

A grand jury in Manhattan indicted two union consultants earlier this month who had also worked for the Democrats, claiming they had diverted union funds to the Carey campaign.

But now the inquiry is examining whether there was a quid pro quo by which the union was in turn required to make large contributions to the Clinton campaign.

The Teamsters were among the biggest donors to the Democratic Party last year and Mr Carey was involved in an extremely tight race and in need of funding.

"The union was supposed to make certain political contributions in exchange for contributions to the Carey campaign," said Barbara Quindel,

the election overseer, in her demand for a new contest with Mr Hoffa.

A memorandum last year from Richard Sullivan, the party's former finance chairman, asked Martin Davis, a Washington political consultant, to steer about \$1 million (£625,000) in Teamsters' donations to several state and local Democratic Party affiliates. A separate note from Mr Davis

to William Hamilton, the union's former political director, linked the donations to unspecified "commitments".

Mr Sullivan's notes refer repeatedly to Mr Carey, mention \$50,000, a lunch meeting and the Teamsters' efforts in promoting the Democratic message. Both Newt Gingrich, the Republican House Speaker, and Mr Hoffa yesterday called for the appointment

of an independent prosecutor to investigate the plans which, according to the DNC, were never implemented.

An attorney for Mr Sullivan confirmed that his client was approached about a plan to use the committee to raise money for Mr Carey, but "as far as Richard Sullivan knows, it was never carried out".

Mr Hoffa said he would

take the case to the gates of the White House. "The Teamsters appear to have become a kind of annex to the Democratic Party. We should be independent. Something should be done about this," he said.

He was staggered that Mr Carey claimed he had no knowledge of cheques written on his behalf or had not known until last week that his campaign manager, Jerry

Nash, was simultaneously working for the Clinton-Gore campaign.

Federal Election Committee records show the Teamsters donated \$2.9 million to individual Democratic campaigns for last year's elections. Mr Carey was first elected president in 1991. The Teamsters traditionally contribute to Republicans in presidential elections.



President and Hillary Clinton yesterday at Mad Martha's Ice Cream Shop in Edgartown on Martha's Vineyard, where they are on holiday.

Iraqis hint at renewal of relations with Syria

FROM MICHAEL THEODULOU IN NICOSIA

IRAQ'S most influential newspaper has called for a resumption of diplomatic ties with Syria to confront growing military co-operation between Israel and Turkey, the two strongest non-Arab powers in the Middle East.

Reconciliation between Baghdad and Damascus could revive the Arabs dormant eastern front, spelling a major new realignment in the region certain to be viewed as a challenge by Israel and America.

Babel newspaper, owned by President Saddam Hussein's eldest son, Uday, said a renewal of ties would be a useful action to all Arabs and counter the Israel-Turkey alliance. It follows a call by Babel for the normalisation of ties with Iraq's former Gulf enemy, Iran, a long-standing ally of Syria, to form a front against imperialists and "Zionists".

Syria has been keen to sell Iraq goods under its oil-for-food deal with the United Nations and their long-sealed joint border was reopened in June to businessmen. However, despite a growing détente between Iraq and Syria underpinned by burgeoning trade links, most diplomats believe the personal animosity between Saddam and President Assad of Syria makes a full resumption of ties unlikely. Damascus is also loath to upset its prosperous Gulf allies, like Saudi Arabia.



Kashmir gun duel on border

Karachi: Pakistani and Indian forces exchanged heavy artillery and mortar fire along the line of control dividing Kashmir over the weekend. Several soldiers and civilians have been killed (Zahid Hussain writes).

Indian military officials said that ten Pakistani civilians and three of their soldiers were killed in the skirmishes. Pakistani officials denied the claims and accused India of an unprovoked attack. The Defence Ministry said that three civilians, two men and a woman, were killed by Indian artillery fire in Chakothi.

Tension began increasing last week and the situation worsened on Friday when the two armies opened fire with artillery and mortars. The firing continued until yesterday.

The latest clashes are the worst since Delhi and Islamabad resumed talks in February after a lapse of three years to ease tension between them. In June, the two countries agreed to start negotiations on all the outstanding issues between them, including Kashmir.

Cook to test moral code on Asia tour

BY DAVID WATTS

BRITAIN'S new "moral" foreign policy gets its first working exposure to world Realpolitik when Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, leaves for a four-nation tour of South-East Asia tomorrow.

There can be few countries where it will be more closely examined than in the two former colonies of Malaysia and Singapore and one of Britain's prime customers for arms and security services, Indonesia.

The tour will be a test of both Mr Cook's statesmanship and his diplomacy in testing his policy with politicians and leaders who are just as capable as he of direct expression.

The Philippines apart, the three remaining countries are suspicious of what they see as the imposition by Western countries of their standards of human rights regardless of local conditions, often accompanied by a fair measure of hypocrisy. Mr Cook rejected in advance, when he launched the policy in July, the notion that concern for human rights is a new form of cultural imperialism. "We are not seeking to impose some peculiarly British concept, but are inviting them to observe rights which have been recognised by the whole world."

"He doesn't want to go as a preacher," said a Foreign Office spokesman. "He wants constructive engagement." The problem for Mr Cook is

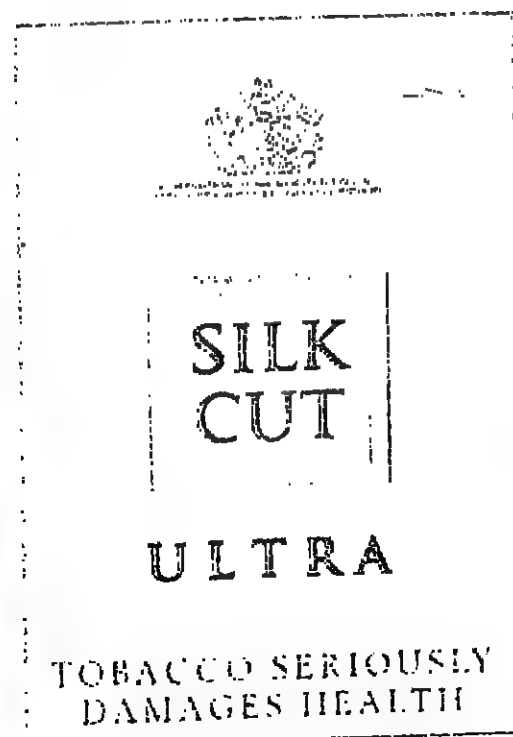
not only that he is a representative of a continent which, if Bosnia, has come close to repeating some of the genocidal horrors of Pol Pot, it is also that while European countries have much to say about election results being overridden in Burma, they ignore the same phenomenon in Algeria. At the Euro-Asian summit in Bangkok last year the Asian countries effectively eliminated discussion of human rights before the conference began.

While Mr Cook's hyperactive working tour will have the promotion of business as central plank, other important trading countries, such as the United States and Canada, have been busy de-linking trade and human rights in their foreign relations. Germany and France have little to say about human rights in Asia when they get in the way of trade, while Japan sticks to the letter of United Nations law.

Only in the Philippines will Mr Cook get a chance to relate and perhaps to have a flunk at the Manila Jockey Club after talks with President Ramos. He will wind up his tour in Singapore where his first appointment will be with the Senior Minister, Li Kuan Yew. The next day he will see the Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong, and Lu Hsien Loong, who is his Deputy Prime Minister and Mr Lee's eldest son.

FATAL DISEASES

Officers' Warning
mg Nicotine



Catastrophe sweeps the reefs

The wasting of the world's coral reefs is baffling marine biologists, who fear new and unexpected killers are at work. Anjana Ahuja reports

Coral reefs are some of the most magical places in the underwater world. Their structures, which range from delicate filigree networks to elegant columns and forbidding spikes, play host to an impressive collection of creatures. Moray eels lurk in crevices; starfish and crabs patrol the environs; dazzling fishes hide from predators among the tentacles of living corals. Some of them are poisonous.

Now corals are under assault. They are being destroyed by pathogens that marine biologists have never seen before: some diseases are so new that they bear no names. One worrying example is rapid wasting disease, which, true to its name, can spread in many inches in one day. It causes outer living tissue to die and the skeleton to crumble. Observers say it is as if someone has poured acid over the coral.

Rapid wasting disease was discovered this summer by Dr Thomas Goreau and James Cervino, founders of the Global Coral Reef Alliance, a non-profit organisation involved in the protection and management of reef systems. Already this year the disease has been spotted along a patch of water from Mexico to Trinidad, a geographical swath that stretches 2,000 miles. The tropical outbreaks are being monitored with alarm by marine scientists and conservation groups across the world.

Coral reefs are a curious mix of the living and the dead. The reef itself is built from the skeletons of dead sea animals related to sea anemones. However, living corals, called polyps, attach themselves and live on the reef, extending their tentacles at night to feast upon microscopic plants and animals. When the polyps die, their hard skeletons com-

posed of calcium carbonate, form another layer. By this slow process, the reefs expand a few centimetres each year.

The reefs are built not from soft coral but from about 1,000 species of so-called stony coral: common species include mushroom coral, brain coral and stag horn coral, all named after their appearance. The drive to preserve the reefs comes not only because of their natural beauty, but because they house hundreds of animal species. Exotic marine plants, such as sea grasses and mangroves, also bloom there. Scientists have an additional interest: corals are thought to contain potential medicines. Some anti-inflammatory drugs already contain chemicals extracted from coral.

The first signs of trouble on the reefs came about 15 years ago, when scientists noticed a whitening or "bleaching". The soft tissue in corals contains single-celled, coloured algae; the coral and algae live in symbiotic harmony, deriving nutrients from each other. "In bleaching, the coloured algae evacuate the coral, leaving it white," says Professor Gary Ostrander, an aquatic toxicologist at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland.

The mass departure could be due to the corals producing toxins which harm the algae, or the corals no longer producing sufficient nutrients. Whatever the cause, it is a serious problem, because without the algae, the coral quickly dies and crumbles away.

Professor Ostrander says: "In the Seventies we had a few reports of bleaching. In the Eighties, it began to appear in the Caribbean. In the Nineties, it's all over the Caribbean and the Indo-Pacific. Ninety per cent of the coral around the Galapagos Islands has gone. I have seen 200-year-old coral colonies bleached in a



As well as destroying structures of immense beauty, the assault on coral reefs endangers hundreds of species that live there, such as these masked butterfly fish in the Red Sea

matter of days into dead rock.

"Now we're also seeing disease processes nobody has ever seen before. We see brown fungus, green fungus, yellow fungus, bacterial infections, and I expect there are even viruses. I imagine that the organisms have always been there but, because the corals are stressed, they are only now taking hold."

Dr Garriet Smith, a marine microbiologist from the University of South Carolina, is an expert on diseases of both hard and soft corals. He has just

submitted a paper to the journal *Nature* on the pathogen which causes white plague type 2. The disease rose to prominence in 1995 after it ravaged 17 species of coral in the upper Florida Keys. "More and more diseases seem to be occurring in corals, which shows their environment is degrading," Dr Smith says.

There was a meeting in Costa Rica last month at which we tried to work out whether these were new or old diseases. We concluded they were mostly new," Scientists at

the conference identified 13 diseases; they knew the causes of only three of them. But the tally changes rapidly. Higher sea temperatures, pollution, sedimentation and changes in salinity have all been cited as possible contributing factors.

However, there has been one sinister development — one organism notorious for wreaking havoc on land was found to be responsible for wiping out sea fans, a soft coral, across wide areas of the Caribbean. It is almost unheard of for a terrestrial

organism to be effective in water; in this case, it crossed the land-sea barrier to deadly effect. *Aspergillus*, a fungus which flourishes in rotting vegetation, is harmless to healthy individuals but sometimes fatal to those with severely depressed immune systems. The fungus stuck to sediment which was swept into the sea, and found the sea fan provided a hospitable base on which to grow. The results have been catastrophic; many populations have simply not recovered. Dr Drew Harvell,

from Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, is attempting to DNA fingerprint the *Aspergillus* pathogen, so that scientists can test for its presence.

Dr Smith, who followed the trail of *Aspergillus* from land to sea and published a *Nature* paper on it last year, does not rule out other terrestrial organisms invading the oceans. He says: "It takes a great leap of faith to say it, but we are looking at the possibility that other diseases have started this way."

Antibiotics are one option but scientists are afraid of killing off useful bacteria along with the harmful types. Another approach is to remove the affected coral in the hope of containing the organism. Some diseases, however, are spreading faster than they can be tracked. Professor Ostrander thinks human beings have a lot to answer for: "We dump so much waste into the sea that it must contain some organisms that can kill. At least if the cause is pollution, we can do something about it."

COMPETITION PRIZE WINNERS

AppleMac Computer

with Disney Interactive software Published June 11
I Wood, London.

Debenhams Makeover Published June 26

First prize Mrs S Rutt, Oxford; Runners-up Mrs M Stevens, Essex; Mrs A Bamicoat, London; Mrs K Taylor, York; Mrs C Ramsey, Doncaster; Mrs K Davis, Reading; Mr P Coombes, Glos; Mrs D Jewson, Coventry; Mrs J Davis, Essex; Mrs M Nunn, Kent; Mrs V Ewen, Newcastle upon Tyne; Mrs M Ward, Hertford; Mrs E Crispin, Surrey; Mrs G Gan, Huddersfield; Mrs K Nunan, Glos; Mrs L Searle, Felixstowe, Suffolk; Mrs J Watson, London; Mrs L Smith, Derby; Ms A Cooper, Bristol; Mrs J Air, Sunderland.

Samsung Home Office Equipment

Published July 2 J Perry, Glasgow.

Jaguar XK150 Published July 5-13

K Pellen, Theydon Bois, Essex.

VIP trip to the British Grand Prix

Published July 7 P Hyde, Aldershot, Hants.

Palmtop PCs Published July 9

Mrs J Green, Doncaster; K Dell, Twickenham; D Phillips, Fleet, Hants; J Derbyshire, Salford; B Clark, Wokingham, Berks.

Phoenix Festival Published July 12

Ms J Lawson, Dover, Kent; D Martin, London; Ms H Bailey, Winchester, Hants.

Win a golf lesson with David Leadbetter Published July 19 & 21

Ms C Rotte, Woking, Surrey; K Scott, Havant, Hampshire.

DNA experiments □ Laser stylus □ Natural antifreeze

Human beings share 98 per cent of their genes with chimpanzees, our closest relatives among primates. So close are we that Professor Jared Diamond, of the University of California in Los Angeles, argues that we should be classified as members of the same species. "There are," he wrote in *The Rise and Fall of the Third Chimpanzee*, "not one but three species of *Homo* on the Earth today: the common chimpanzee, the pygmy chimpanzee, and man." The gorilla, he added, is only slightly more distant so has almost equal rights to be considered a fourth species of *Homo*.

Experiments at the University of Miami School of Medicine prove that he was not jesting. There, researchers have introduced gorilla and chimpanzee DNA into human cells and shown that it works, while DNA from monkeys, orang-utans and leopards does not.

The DNA they used comes from the mitochondria, the

Man apes chimpanzee

power plants of the cells, not from the nucleus. Mitochondrial DNA is passed down unchanged through the female line, so has far less chance to develop variation than nuclear DNA, which is inherited from both mother and father.

In the 1970s, researchers showed that mitochondrial DNA could be transplanted between related species of protozoa, and later the same was done with fruit flies.



SCIENCE BRIEFING
Nigel Hawkes

Dr Lesley Kenyon and Dr Carlos Moraes, of the Miami medical school, took a human cell line that had been stripped of mitochondria so that the cell could not produce fuel through respiration. They fused these cells with those of primates whose nuclei had been removed. In other words, the nuclei came from human beings, the mitochondria from primates. They report in *Proceed-*

ings of the National Academy of Sciences that cells from chimpanzee species and gorillas restored the ability of the human cells to respire. But those from orang-utans and more distant relations failed. Dr Moraes says the abrupt change in compatibility means a very small change in mitochondrial DNA is all that is needed to prevent it working with human nuclear DNA.

The experiment could have implications for understanding diseases caused by faults in mitochondrial DNA. These could include epilepsy and diabetes. Finding defects in mitochondrial DNA is difficult because it is filled with mutations and it is hard to identify the changes that matter. The fact that the primate DNA, which contains even more variation, can co-operate with human nuclear DNA could help to pin down the areas that are important in such co-operation, narrowing the search for disease-causing mutations.

Beetles don't feel the cold

A POWERFUL natural antifreeze has been isolated from a beetle. *Tenebrio molitor*, which uses it to stop its larvae freezing in cold weather. Made up of four proteins, it is a hundred times more efficient than similar proteins used by fish. *Tenebrio molitor* is a source of mealworms — larvae used as food for pet birds and fish. It has been

known for 30 years that mealworms can survive at low temperatures, but no one was able to isolate the proteins responsible.

In a report in *Nature*, Dr Peter Davies and colleagues from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, say they used sensitive separation methods to establish that the protein sequence is unlike any previously known. Atas, so far there is no obvious application for the this powerful antifreeze, outside the laboratory, although the genes from Arctic char have been stitched into plants to make them more frost-resistant.

Revolution for vintage 78s

A LASER has come to the aid of badly worn 78rpm records and phonograph cylinders from the last century. Some of these are simply too worn and fragile to be played by a conventional stylus; but the laser device, developed by researchers at the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, can produce clear sound without risk of further damage to the

recordings, as the laser stylus presses down with a force only one-fortieth that of a modern tone arm, according to Opto & Laser Europe.

The "needle" consists of an optical fibre, along which a beam of laser light is directed. An angle cut at the end of the fibre directs the light towards a sensor. The fibre is wider than a traditional needle, so it rides along the groove above the worn region.

As the needle moves along the groove, variations of its position are sent by the laser to the detector, which turns the movements into sound.

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BULLYING

The dark shadow over childhood

A NEW school year ought to be a time of renewal and optimism. For many children, though, it offers only misery and fear — the fear of bullying. Just how much bullying goes on in schools is notoriously difficult to quantify, but a new report, *Anti-Bullying in Action*, from the department of education at Keele University, estimates that more than half of children have been bullied at some time. An unhappy 10 per cent are victims of persistent physical intimidation, leading to severe disillusionment, truancy and in extreme cases suicide.

One of the problems identified by the

report is the reluctance of pupils to discuss their troubles. Bullied children do not know whom they can trust. Discussing with a teacher what has been happening to them can be tantamount to a confession of failure. There is, too, the fear of reprisal.

Parents who urge their children to fight back, the report says, fail to understand that the bullied child is a child stripped of confidence.

As Peter Miller, president of the Secondary Heads Association, says: "Bullying creates terrible suffering. I am encouraged, though, that the days when

bullying was inevitable are gone. But we must never be complacent."

The charity Kidscape, with the help of a £43,000 lottery grant, is researching the long-term effects. "We have received well over 2,000 calls from people who say they have suffered long-term effects from being bullied," they report. "Victims tell us that as adults they lack self-esteem, have difficulty trusting, feel depressed and sometimes find themselves being bullied at work or in relationships."

In the first of a two-part series, two victims and a bully relate their experiences.

In common with many other victims of bullying, 12-year-old Hayley Dempsey suffered grievously not only at the hands of thuggish young tormentors, but also from the prolonged unwillingness of adults in authority to come to her aid.

Hayley, a slight and gentle child, was marked out several years ago for harassment and abuse by a group of children living on the same housing estate in South London.

Over a three-year period, beginning in August 1993 when Hayley was only eight, four children from a family living above the Dempseys' ground-floor flat targeted the little girl, abusing her, spitting on her, surrounding and taunting her, and at one point holding her down to kick and punch her.

While most bullying behaviour originates at school, community bullying is now widespread too. The national children's charity Childline reports that 15 per cent of children who called to report bullying in 1996 said they were harassed near their own homes, compared with 9 per cent in 1990.

In Hayley's case, the bullies attended the same local primary school and also picked on her there.

Her mother, Siobhan Dempsey, a single parent, claims that despite repeated appeals to the police, social

services, Hayley's school and the local council which ran the housing estate, nobody could or would take action to protect the little girl.

"The police said the bullies were too young to be prosecuted, the council repeatedly refused to rehouse us or take action against the family causing the problem, and social services even accused me of abusing Hayley, until medical reports proved otherwise."

By September 1995, Hayley's weight had dropped to only 3 stone, and she had changed from being a bright and cheerful child into one who was deeply withdrawn and fearful, suffering from nightmares and severe depression.

One day while she and her mother were visiting a friend, Hayley tried to throw herself from a third-floor window.

She was saved only by the friend's fast reaction in grabbing her. The family's nightmare eventually ended 12 months ago when the council finally agreed to rehouse them, a few weeks after being contacted by a local newspaper, and Hayley moved to a new school.

"The refusal of the council to do anything for three years made a very bad situation

even worse," Mrs Dempsey says.

"Hayley felt terrible. She felt like she was being victimised further, on top of the bullying. The way we were being treated made her even more depressed and anxious."

Watching her mother struggle for recognition of their plight and for assistance, however, sparked a strong desire in the little girl to make contact with and help other victims.

"After about 18 months, Hayley started saying to me: 'Mum, what about all the other ones like me who are out there?' I was only interested in protecting my own family, but Hayley, even during the worst times, was concerned for others, too."

"After about a year of this, I started to pay attention to what she was saying. Hayley and I started to research the problem of community bullying in depth."

"And after several months, I found that Hayley was quite right — there is a gap in services for victims of community bullying. So that's how we started our support group, Children Count Too." The name, as well as many of the group's aims and objectives, were suggested by Hayley.

Hayley tried to throw herself from a third-floor window

Established just over a year ago, Children Count Too has made contact with 300 families throughout the UK and has a client base of 30 families.

"All the families we help have found the same thing as us. It has to be proven that a child between the ages of 10 and 14 is aware that he or she was committing a crime, and the police often use that as an excuse not to take any action, arguing that it's just too difficult to prove criminal intent."

Rebecca Rejtman, a lawyer who works for the Children's Legal Centre, a national charity in Essex, supports Mrs Dempsey's claims. "All the evidence suggests that the authorities are certainly not taking this problem as seriously as they should," Ms Rejtman says. "Parents don't know where to turn, but if more parents start going to the police and demanding action, it may help to change attitudes."

● The Children's Legal Centre has a free information pack for parents called *Bullying: A Guide to the Law*. For more information, call 01206 873520. Children Count Too can be contacted on 0151-355 6140.

● BBC Education's Bully series starts tomorrow and will be continued on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday on BBC2. A free-phone helpline will be in operation while the series is on air: 0800 888889.

SUE CORRIGAN



For three years, four children abused Hayley, spat on her and at one point held her down to kick and punch her

THE VICTIM: RANULPH FIENNES

My school memories are dimmed by the passing of more than three decades. My first three schools, all in South Africa, included the Little People's School, kindergarten where a lad called Alan Reid used to thrash me and the other four-year-olds with sticks during playtime.

At Fortes School near Cape Town, when I was six, one Lionel Gertz led a gang who specialised in twisting your arm until you cried for mercy down in the scrub behind the school pavilion. I asked my mother to invite Gertz home for sticky buns to gain Brownie points. This worked well but only for a short period.

The fact that almost the only names of other children from those days that I can now recall are the bullies suggests that their mini reigns of terror made lasting impressions.

Over the next five years I was lucky and avoided bullies but, back in England aged 12 and small for my age, I was sent to Eton and my troubles really began. This was not Eton's fault. I believe I would have run the same gauntlet or worse at any other male-only boarding school.

Boys were bullied for countless reasons. Their noses were bulbous, their hair ginger, their accents different from everyone else, their voices squeaky or, as in my case, they were pretty to look at and were therefore subjected to sexual innuendo. The exception to the rule "thou shalt bully those who do not conform" was simple. Boys, who by instinct or upbringing knew how to retaliate, how to give back as good or better than they received, were soon left alone.

Ninety-nine per cent of the bullying at Eton constituted verbal abuse. As the Old Etonian author David Benedictus once wrote: "The boys at Eton looked for weak spots and when they found them they applied the dentist's drill."

I recall no case of bullying by the school authorities. I was beaten five times by successive house head prefects for various misdemeanours. Bamboo canes were wielded with skill

and power, raising livid weals. The prefects in my house included the recent ministers Jonathan Aitken, George Young and Douglas Hogg; also an SAS commanding officer who was, surprisingly, the least effective with the cane. Such corporal punishment was well-deserved and, in my opinion, effective.

I have no grudges against Eton as an educational establishment but its bullies were as accomplished as any in the land and I suffered three long years of misery as a result. No subsequent experience in my life has ever come near to approaching the utter wretched-



Ranulph Fiennes: Eton boy

edness of those years. Even though no physical bullying was ever involved, my problem was that I looked attractive and that I minded the resulting taunts, the shouting in queues, the catcalls from the windows of the 25 school houses that crowd the centre of Eton, and the recurring cut of cruel gibes whenever I attempted to make friends.

Aged 13, I seriously considered suicide. The very thought of escape from the stares, the sneers and the sniggers was a help. I would lie tearful in bed planning death notes denouncing the worst culprits.

Beyond the psychological aid of the suicide plan, I developed other tactics such as an ugly scowl, which I practised in front of my mirror to lessen the scourge of prettiness. I wore this scowl like a mask, as others might apply cream to hide shameful pim-

ples. Despite a long-time fear of rough sports, I decided to take up boxing. In two years I made the school team, acquired chipped teeth and a broken nose and my troubles eased off. My self-confidence by then had reached an all-time low and I was never again comfortable in static social situations where people sit and banter. Ski holidays in groups where there is plenty of action are bearable but not house parties or pub gossiping. Even now, some 35 years later, I am too over-sensitive to harmless teasing. Without reason, the old feeling of persecution can return uninvited like the force of sudden vertigo.

Ten years ago I wrote a study of bullying through the ages for a magazine and came away with the impression that no amount of counselling will help the victims. Bertrand Russell advised the creation of schools where pupils were free from traditional disciplines and character-cramping invigilation. This, he believed, would enable inherent human decency to surface. But his theories ended with bitter tales of overt tyranny by the strong over the weak at his experimental school. Nobody has yet devised a foolproof cure against bullying that does not involve the victim risking retribution if he or she tries to "sneak" to the authorities.

Prevention is the only answer and, with today's educational system, this can come only from on high. New laws must force school principals to treat bullying as a major in-house enemy, on a par with drugs, to be sought out and destroyed. Teachers of all grades must be protected by law in their anti-bullying activities to prevent them being attacked (often out of school) by vengeful bullies and their parents.

Until this happens countless young people will continue to suffer daily fear, torment and misery through what should be the best years of their lives. I wonder if Messrs Blair and Blunkett realise that it is within their power now to change all this. In two or three years' time the opportunity may have passed.

THE BULLY: JOHN HEGLEY

way. I thought I was confident, bossy even, but not this.

My sister, who was two years younger than me, used to annoy me over certain things — not being competitive enough in the games we played, not walking fast enough on the way to school, not being a boy, not giving me all her Toffees — and I would make her suffer for it. I would pinch her often and severely, and she would cry. My father would then hurt me for this hurting, but it didn't stop me. I was a bully. But why?

My parents were rarely openly affectionate, but my brother and sister had the same treatment and they didn't share my penchant for pinching and pushing. I was a keener observer than they, and so more aware of their weaknesses and failings, but I have no idea where my vindictive streak came from. Most kids exhibit some antisocial behaviour, possessiveness at the very least, that tends to be tamed over time.

There was also the boy whom I used to invite home to play, but who never reciprocated. One day I asked him why this was. He said his Dad didn't like him playing with me. Why not? "He doesn't like the way you treat your sister."

Then my best friend, the best fighter in the class (I was second), got annoyed with me and pushed me round the entire perimeter of the playground, asking me to fight him, which I didn't dare do. Every-one watched with lightly veiled delight, seeing me get a taste of my own medicine.

In my last year I was the only child not to receive any

Christmas cards in the internal postal system. I don't think I had yet realised the link between my unpopularity and my vindictive behaviour.

At my senior school, the local grammar school in Luton, my status plummeted. I felt less confident without religion and the sacredness of the nuns around me. And physically I stayed small, while others shot up around

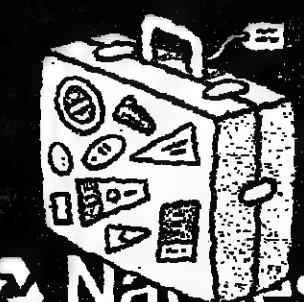
me — including some of those I had bossed and lugged about in primary school. Luckily, none decided to settle old debts. I felt a grudging gratitude towards them for not busting me on to the boys' toilet coathooks.

I don't think you can ever purge the bullying urge entirely. When I was a child, I just went with it, although I realised people didn't like me

for it. In adult life my credo is, do unto others as you would be done unto, which is still essentially selfish — one day they may actually do unto you as you have done. So what should be done with bullies? First, tell them they are bullies; with mild cases, this may be enough. Secondly, don't send them Christmas cards. If these fail, hang them on the hooks in the boys' toilets.

● Hu Blundy: Hu, part of the BBC2 series *Bully*, is on Thursday at 11.25pm

Which bank has issued enough AIR MILES to visit Sydney 77,155 times?



NatWest
More than just a bank

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TOMORROW

Is your child being bullied? The signs to look for and how you can help deal with it



One of the greatest pleasures in life is indiscriminate reading and, for me, holidays are the time to do it. For many of us, not only professional print providers but anyone with a job which involves words to be guzzled or chewed on or glared at or tapped out, indiscriminate reading is hard to come by. By the time you have got through the bump and the baggage of office there are not many hours left for that free-floating, idle selection of a book which may turn out to be the best few quiet hours of the month.

I have been rereading *Our Mutual Friend* by Charles Dickens. Rereading is important to stress, because once you know the plot of *Our Mutual Friend* then quite a lot of the surface pleasure is absent in the second reading. Know the relationship between John (1) and Julius and John (2); know the real reason for the transformation of the Boffins; know the fate of the Lammies and the Veneerings; know the end of Betty Higden and you are in for far

fewer surprises than the author intended. Yet the 900 or more pages were as compelling as I presume they were the first time I went through them.

Partly, of course, that is because there are so many details that have slithered below the ocean bed of the memory. The full description of Jenny Wren's golden hair and of Riah the devout and exemplary Jew, for example. Some of it is so forceful that to reread it is perhaps to be even more engaged. I think here particularly of the schoolmaster Bradley Headstone, whose uncontrollable and vengeful passion for Lizzie Hexham would grace Dostoevsky. The blindness of unlikely love is a theme which continues in her unshakeable attachment to the careless, almost cruel, Eugene and his eventual — after due suffering — realisation of his love for her.

In this relationship the class question is spelt out in terms which would get the nod from Jane Austen, although she would never have dared attempt the coupling of a waterman's daughter and a well-educated, upper-class gentleman.

All these are rediscoveries, but reading indiscriminately with no deadline at all can take you on a zigzag course through a countryside of prose which, for someone who mostly reads for a professional purpose, is a wonderful holiday in itself. Basking in a book for no ulterior reason is far and away the most pleasurable and, I would guess, the most profitable way to read, because pleasure sharpens memory and time enables enjoyment to flourish.

As in the work of all great authors, Dickens's writing opens as many gates as you have a mind to try. One thing which struck me

MELVYN BRAGG



forcibly this time round was the powerful sense of goodness with which he could endow a character. This is by no means an original observation, but it bears thinking about. Take Sloppy. He is a

gangling, wholly uneducated youth always troubled by too many buttons. He mangles for Betty Higden and is taken up by the generous Boffins. Sloppy is awkward in every particular, from his donkey laugh to his unaccommodating frame.

Yet Dickens makes us realise that Sloppy has an iron morality, an unshakeable view of right and wrong, loyalty beyond measure and, finally, a sure touch of delicate feeling when he discovers how crippled Jenny Wren the dolls' dressmaker is, and makes overtures to help her.

Who, I wonder, is writing about Sloppy today, who would think him worthwhile? He is not only part of an underclass, he is an unglamorous, unexciting part of an underclass, and yet Dickens shows us that his virtue is a prop to society and a shining character-

istic in itself. As with Betty Higden and others, Dickens draws us in so we believe, against great odds, that there is a good world somewhere whose location is not in any one class or set of circumstances but spread all around the place in the unlikelyst hovel and in the most light-feathered head.

Sometimes Dickens does drive you mad with goody goodness. When Bella Wilfer, an interestingly confused young woman, starts treating her father as a child and talks to her husband in chatter that would disgust any self-respecting baby, then it is all but unbearable. But even though she is destroyed as a character to pander to Dickens's sentimentality, she is redeemed in the greater story, shown that she can be saved from her worst nature. Turning Shakespeare on

his head, what Dickens went for is the goodness that lives on, and not the evil men do which, he maintained, dies with them.

It is not a very modern experience to spend time in a book being seered towards the better while full account is taken of the worst. And, yes, sometimes Dickens does fancy too glibly — as when he describes the mill workers coming out on a Saturday night and somehow being part of the scene of pastoral serendipity.

But he can be allowed to nod. Inside *Our Mutual Friend*, besides the plot, the stories, the Podsnaps, Mr Venus and Silas Wegg (the literary man with the wooden leg), inside that great caravan of fiction is a scroll being taken across the sands, a scroll proclaiming that only by doing good will the world be fit to live in. It would be a bold author who would argue as much as explicitly and with all his genius today. And an even bolder author who would dare produce so many happy endings.

Where guitar heroes are the kings of rock

POP: Nigel Williamson on the world-beating form on display at this year's edition of the Reading Festival

Two ongoing sagas of a long summer season reached triumphantly at the Oval our home-grown cricketers were dramatically salvaging some pride in the final Test, at Reading for the last of 1997's major festivals British rock was also displaying world-beating form.

Both events proved again the fickleness of fame for just as Phil Tufnell had become cricketer's forgotten man before his heroic recall, Suede and their Ironman Brett Anderson had also been prematurely written off before bouncing back with the acclaimed album *Coming Up*. On Friday both men were irresistible and you wondered why anyone had ever doubted them.

While the neglected spinner was destroying the Australian batting, Anderson was strutting his stage with a swaggering confidence, rhin and gaunt at the end of an exhausting world tour but every inch the star. High-energy hits such as *Animal Nitrate* and *So Young* were mixed with potent ballads and new songs and the crowd adored him. While Tufnell's reward will now be a trip to the West Indies, Suede could this week top their comeback year with the Mercury music prize.

Elsewhere the bill showed a strength in depth that England's bating line-up would envy. Particularly impressive in the middle order were James, overcoming jet lag and a neck injury to singer Tim Bouth to play a driving set of melodic songs, and Liverpool's current fab four Cast, whose classic guitar-laden pop may lack variety but is highly effective.

Saturday was made memorable by the Manic Street Preachers, a band in their

second innings who are currently playing better than ever. The story of the still unsolved disappearance more than two years ago of Richey Edwards, the group's enigmatic figurehead, is well-known and for a while they benefited from a sympathy vote. Fronted by James Dean Bradfield, they have since re-emerged to stand on their own feet magnificently without him and mini-epics such as *Design*

6 Here the dance music takeover was for once checked

For *Life* filled the arena with effortless ease and power. A fine new song, *Ready For Drowning*, suggested their best may even still be to come.

For bands on the smaller stages it became *de rigueur* to end by declaring "See you on the main stage next year". Most, of course, won't make it but there were several who suggested they will be strong candidates for promotion. Silver Sun have spent a lot of time perfecting old Beach Boys harmonies, which allied to some intelligent songs and an attacking delivery puts them near the top of the second division. Travis, too, have what it takes and the opening slot on the forthcoming Oasis tour will do them no harm. Indeed, at times we seemed to be witnessing a new sub-genre known as Noelrock, so strong

is the influence of the Oasis songwriter on bands like Hurricane #1 and Embrace.

Super Furry Animals, staidmates of Oasis at Creation Records, were full of idiosyncratic Welsh humour, steeped in psychedelia of the Syd Barrett school. Heaven knows what they put in the water down there but the Cardiff-based Gorky's Zygotic Mynci were even weirder, a strong sense of melody and harmony combined with a whimsy scarcely heard since the days of the Incredible String Band.

Reading has always been a guitar-fest and so here the dance music takeover was for once checked. The few acts that did make it on to the bill, such as Apollo 440 and Asian Dub Foundation, were given graveyard shifts and struggled to lift the early afternoon torpor. The Orb were the exception with a prime slot as night fell and stormclouds threatened. It should have been the perfect backdrop for their swirling, ambient techno soundscapes but in front of a crowd waiting for the Manics' guitar-led pop drama, they nearly blew it. Eventually they won the audience back with some storming big beats but answered few of the basic questions about electronic music: is it rock'n'roll and is there anybody there? From where I stood all that was visible were shadows flitting through the dry ice behind a bank of machinery inside the pyramid which forms the centrepiece of their show.

It was an interesting diversion which added welcome variety to the bill, but Suede and the Manic Street Preachers showed that the Reading stage will always belong primarily to testosterone-driven guitar heroes and iconic rock'n'roll singers. And that, after all, is how it should be.



Better than ever: James Dean Bradfield fronts the Manic Street Preachers in their Reading Festival gig on Saturday

Russian circus comes to town

TO CALL it a load of *Old Russian Circus Music*, as the Russian composer Rodion Shchedrin has titled his third concerto for orchestra, is to invite a disparaging comment which would not be entirely out of place for such a motley assortment of musical allusions. Commissioned originally for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and given its premiere there in 1990, it arrived at the Proms on Saturday with the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra under Vassily Sinaisky, following a CD recording by the same forces.

Taking its cue from the 19th-century Russian tradition of touring circuses in the provinces, where not everything always went smoothly, the music evokes that ambience of popular entertainment in just under 25 minutes of bouncy ensembles, instrumental "turns" with orchestrated applause by other players, lyrical sentiment and an often dance-like momentum.

Given a vociferous welcome by the Albert Hall audience, Sinaisky responded by repeating the final few bars as an encore, and the audience with his wife, the former Bolshoi ballerina, Maya Plisetskaya, took a much applauded bow.

BBC PROMS

Sinaisky is a conductor who visibly communicates an infectious pleasure in making music with an orchestra, as he had in a pungent account of *En Saga* by Sibelius to begin the programme.

The Russian pianist Ilya Itin, last year's first prizewinner in the Leeds International competition, was a relatively modest soloist in Grieg's *Piano Concerto*, anxious to display its lyricism more than its keyboard technique.

On the previous night in the Albert Hall Amanda Roocroft was a creamy-toned soloist with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra under their music director Daniele Gatti in dramatic concert arias by Beethoven and Mozart. The former's *Ah! perfido* from the soprano's unduly taxed by the vivid incisiveness of the vocal writing and the voice turned ready under the pressure of threatening vengeance after the initial accusations of angry betrayal, sustained by a vehement orchestra.

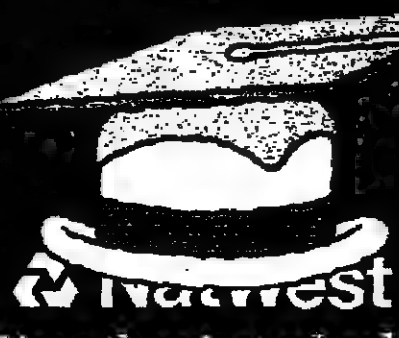
Moving from a forceful C major into a gentler E flat as she pleaded for compassion, the singer was at her most beguiling, as she was again for much of Mozart's *Ch'io mi scordi di te?* after the interval. Here she was joined by Malcolm Martineau to play the important keyboard obbligato that Mozart wrote for himself originally, which surrounds the voice with the decorative embellishment in the slow section and most tellingly in the bravura rondo finale.

Gatti began the programme with a benign if not very penetrating approach to Schubert's *B minor Symphony*, the "Unfinished", dispensing the two movements with sensitive feeling for the music's lyrical element and generating baleful interjections in the opening movement. He gave significant character to the lesser phrases and, in a sometimes plodding account of the following *Andante con moto* he pointed up the music's incipient drama. After the Mozart aria, by which time the orchestra players had shed their white jackets for shirt-sleeves in the prevailing humidity, Gatti fastened on Hindemith's *Mahlis der Mahler Symphony* with an intelligent grasp of its colourful nature.

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EDINBURGH FESTIVAL: A Chinese puzzle and the new Caryl Churchill

Gender bending at the palace

Even in the official festival, Edinburgh is full of outsiders, and in East Palace, West Palace, Zhong Yuan's two-handed dissection of gay love in a Chinese park, no one is left out in the cold more than the gender-bending writer-figure and the cop who comes across him in a toilet.

The two palaces of the title are in fact twin public conveniences, built either side of a police station, and are popular collaging resorts for the local community. What ensues is a series of power games between the pair worthy of Pinter, as the writer fictionalises his life to the extent of revealing a romanticised truth, and the cop lowers his macho guard to let his own sexuality come tumbling out behind the braces and buttons.

Performed (at the Gateway) in Mandarin, with slices of Chinese opera, it is all very much an *à la carte* in-uniform scenario, with the painstakingly paced momentum crossing the political divide.

To be an outlaw in Beijing is to be kept in the water closet. To be a writer in Britain, on the other hand, is a different kettle of fish entirely. Not that Out of Joint, the company formed by former Joint Stock, Royal Court and Traverse



Valerie Lilley, Jason Watkins, Mary Macleod in *Blue Kettle*

man Max Stafford Clark, seems to have any problems crossing the divide, even with work as playfully and some may say wilfully difficult as Caryl Churchill's title, *Blue Heart* (at the Traverse). Twin tiers of plays which could be very boring indeed, they both dig in to rip aside aspects of communication with a knowingly clever nod to today's splintered state.

Heart's Desire is a domestic farce which sees a pukka old-aged couple awaiting their daughter's return from Australia. All very simple, and very, very dull, except that

Churchill deconstructs the whole affair in spades, peeling things back to the start to begin again, and takes such audaciously tangential byways as to knock the whole thing off its pompous feet and render it hilarious. There are flashes of genius on offer here, with a wild selection of visitors invading the domestic heartland, while Churchill's lyrical flights of fancy expose an assortment of truths.

gave him up at birth, allowing him to exploit their fragile emotions for his own monetary ends.

Easy-peasy, though, this isn't, as the words "blue" and "kettle" are substituted more and more for common-or-garden dialogue, so that by the end even words have broken down to reveal a fractured language exclusive to the serial mummy's boy and his victims.

It is all very clever, attempting to address these times of flux via linguistic flourishes, but Churchill seems to be addressing no one but herself, with her meticulously crafted mind games being too exclusive to let ordinary folk in.

While subversion is to be encouraged in these days of hip-service conformity, form for form's sake simply won't do any more, and, beautifully acted as both plays are, this appears to be the sight and sounds of former glory boys missing the mark entirely.

No one would be indulged in this way if they didn't have Out of Joint's collective track record. Perhaps it is time for the company to take stock, for much of the fringe is leaving them reeling.

NEIL COOPER

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7

A moral victory for Socrates

Lesley Chamberlain
on the need for clear moral teaching

This autumn schools will begin piloting the teaching of "moral values" based on guidance which has already caused a hue and cry. Last year the National Forum for Values in Education and the Community delivered a non-unanimous report on the subject, which was approved in May by the new Labour Government, paving the way for compulsory lessons.

According to schismatics within the forum, the majority relativists take a subjective approach to "what we value", and they have focused their attacks on the chief executive of the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority, Nick Tate.

On across-the-board subjects, such as the self, relationships, society and the environment, the official forum statement demonstrated a tendency to waffle to the point of meaninglessness. For example: "We value ourselves as unique human beings, capable of spiritual, moral, intellectual and physical growth and development."

Opponents of the relativists have all the more reason, then, for insisting that society needs clear moral rules, and in their support the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, has made the excellent point that there can be only a weak morality at best where no clear moral and spiritual language is in common use. But at worst the "rules" side sounds preachy.

As a teacher, I feel some sympathy for both camps, but my sympathy translates into classical scepticism. Through this year's debate I found myself muttering: do we need a better way of teaching morals than Socrates? The end of exasperated last term gave me a chance to try out the dialectic on 20 ten and 11-year-olds from mixed backgrounds.

Socrates tells the story of Gyges' Ring early in *The Republic* to jolt those who believe in power and advantage into reconsidering their definition of virtue. If you found a magic ring to turn you invisible whenever you wished, what would you do? Parents may blush. The majority answer was: raid the nearest toyshop. Delayed gratification interested only one boy, who thought he would use the ring to seek fame, and by that route riches.

Yet I don't think we need to be shocked by the realisation that most children are materialistic. Asked how they felt about a ring which instantly turned them from good boys to bad, all without exception rushed to disapprove of it and put it back. What, put it back so that someone else can do far more wicked things? Don't you want to throw it away? But then, if you destroy it, you destroy the chance of doing extraordinary good, too. In good Socratic fashion we got stuck. The next class, facing up to the uncertainty of the modern world, would discuss what is a good person, and a good action, and why we need to know.

Used to an uphill struggle, teachers no doubt exaggerate, but I do believe we had fun in this exploratory class. Those who spoke often, and cogently, were not always the best academically, which gave a chance for new lights to shine. But the real joy was the revelation of instinctively critical minds, so that, for all that we agreed the only unassailable standards we could find were in our various religions, we also agreed that the practice of religion, and thus the provision of moral role-models, was fraught with hypocrisy.

We were also aware of "doing good" for less than good motives, like wanting to shine in the eyes of our peers, all of which gave us a sceptical philosophical foundation for our discourses on faith. In effect, we agreed that God alone knows who is a good person, and that if we don't believe, we can only confront our insufficient human knowledge. This is philosophical, not cultural relativism, which I complemented instinctively with the story of a good action, while a disbelieving listener equally instinctively began to deconstruct my story. The spontaneous course the lesson took was thoroughly interesting. It reminded me of why religion teaches in parables and also that rules, critical reflection and literature are all necessary parts of moral teaching. The plan for future lessons was to work out what rules individuals and society needed. We knew already, in all humility, why we should adhere to them.

If I ever teach it, I shall call it the "Who What Why?" class. To endorse the rule-seekers, I'm sure it is the practice that matters and that good practice should be taught. It would be wantonly destructive to let cultural relativism go in the way. But our children are neither naive nor dim, and to give them a critical underpinning as to why we need to keep creating and recreating our shared values, guided by the wisdom of our respective traditions, is to salute their potential as educated modern citizens.

Behind the launching of a 'reborn' Volkswagen lies a history of atrocity, says Michael Pinto-Duschinsky

Can the Beetle live down its terrible past?

Volkswagen is preparing to market the New Beetle. The company is gambling that memories will stretch back no further than the 1960s. Despite its image as the cult workhorse of the "Beat Generation", the history of the VW is grim. In 1938 the Beetle was produced by Ferdinand Porsche and backed by Hitler as the Nazi "people's car". During the War, VW's factories relied on slave labour, many of them Soviet prisoners of war and Polish conscripts. VW recruited 7,000 prisoners — half of them Jewish — from concentration camps including Auschwitz and Buchenwald.

Some were forced to manufacture V1 rockets, living in appalling underground barracks. The Jewish quarters at VW's Wolfsburg factory were outposts of Neugamme concentration camp. If female labourers (generally Polish and Soviet "East-workers") became pregnant, their newborn infants were taken away. The mothers' work was not to be interrupted. At VW's "baby farm", death from malnutrition, dirt, disease and beatings was the norm. About 400 babies perished. In 1944 the death rate was 254 out of 310 admissions. VW's factory doctor, who ran the home, was an SS-Hauptsturmführer. He was later convicted by a British war crimes court and executed.

Is it fair to rake up this distant past? After all, VW has spent more than £1 million on research headed by an independent academic, Hans Mommsen, into the company's war record. His 1,055-page book makes no secret of Porsche's Nazi involvements or of the extensive use of "forced labour". The company has given £4 million for Jewish and non-Jewish charitable and commemorative projects. What more can it do?

Quite simply, VW refuses to give retrospective wages and pension rights to its elderly former slaves or to their families. By contrast, the company's German overseers, and members of the SS who guarded the prisoners, were paid then and are normally entitled to pensions now.

Mommsen has publicly backed the company's refusal to consider compensation. According to press reports, he gave as reasons: (1) that his researchers had failed to unearth the "names and addresses" of all the former "forced labourers"; (2) there could be false claims ("secondary corruption"); (3) administrative problems; (4) "German industry's resources are limited"; (5) compensation is a government responsibility.

Volkswagen's decision to pay for history but not for compensation has wide ramifications. There is a question of historical standards. Studies have been authorised by several companies with guilty pasts, including Deutsche Bank, Mercedes-Benz and, most recently, Degussa. It was Degussa which smelted gold from the teeth fillings of Jews who had been gassed. Histories — like royal commission reports — take a long time to write. This allows aged former slaves to die in the interim. Mommsen's research was published after ten years. Company-sponsored histories can never be truly independent. The only valid way to establish the truth is for corporations to abandon their document shredders and to open their records.

The recent tome on VW's war history has been called "Persil-shine" by the commentator Otto Koehler. He berates the book's all-too-brief treatment of the atrocities at the VW "baby farm" and criticises Mommsen for omitting the details produced by British prosecutors. In defence of the Nazi doctor executed for war crimes, Mommsen comments: "A personalisation of these problems leads to error." The 300 photographs in his book include a gallery of pictures of

Ferdinand Porsche, Hitler and Beetle prototypes. Disturbing photographs of dead infants produced at the "baby farm" trial are missing.

The VW-sponsored work raises broader questions about a worrying tendency in some mainstream German historical writing to explain away the aspects of the Holocaust. Thankfully, this is hotly resisted within Germany itself. Mommsen's rejection of the idea of any personal responsibility for the

as easily have occurred in any industrialised society. Mommsen, though a supporter of the Social Democrats, has long backed some propositions of the far-right David Irving.

History apart, VW's record is likely to have consequences closer to home. It could renew controversies over the fundraising practices of British universities, similar to last year's debate over Dr Gert-Rudolf Flick's endowment to Oxford University. Forty per cent of VW is in public ownership: the Volkswagen Foundation is financed from the dividends. In Britain, this foundation is a mainstay of programmes such as those in German studies at St Antony's College, Oxford. There are unavoidable moral questions for the foundation's grantees. How can they justly accept money to which former slave workers have a strong prior claim?

The only valid way to establish the truth is for corporations to abandon their document shredders

Volkswagen's token gift of £4 million reflects the standard policy of former Nazi corporations and of the Kohl Government: refuse claims for individuals; refuse political pressure with modest lump-sums to foreign charities or governments; VW's derisory payment to the Jewish Claims Conference was on condition that — to avoid setting a precedent — nothing should go to individual claimants.

The German government last week started a new round of talks with the Jewish Claims Conference. The deal, which officials on both sides seem to have sketched out, is that Germany will make marginal improvements to a "hardship fund" established after the end of the Cold War for Jews in Eastern Europe who were denied compensation under Germany's restitution laws; Jew-

ish negotiators will keep within bounds demands for compensation and pensions for former slaves. However, both sides will face pressure to put this later issue on the agenda.

The Jewish Claims Conference, founded in 1951 as a body to represent 22 Jewish organisations, is now a secretive, wary body coming under increasing fire from Holocaust survivors in America, Israel and Britain. The conference's 200-strong staff is financed almost entirely by administrative overheads from the German authorities; it has yet to publish its internal accounts.

On the German Government's side, caution has been demanded by the Finance Ministry, corporations and lawyers. Officials repeat the mantra that restitution of 100 billion marks has been provided. This statistic is thoroughly misleading. It includes pensions of German emigrants, and several extraneous categories. The Kohl Chancellor refuses to say how much Germany has paid specifically to the families of the six million dead Jews or to the survivors of the camps — a far smaller amount.

The Kohl Government and the German corporations have not appreciated the new urgency of Jewish Holocaust survivors' demands for payments for their slave labour. They have also mistaken the mood of important sections of German opinion. The *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, which called last week for the Government to grant such compensation, expressed the consensus of the country's press. Meanwhile, the European Parliament has supported the petition of the British-based Claims for Jewish Slave-Labour Compensation Campaign and forwarded it to the German Bundestag.

And in Wolfsburg, Volkswagen's company town, a brave and vociferous minority, led by Pastor Hohnsbein and supported by the town archivist, Dr Siegfried, have long campaigned for generous treatment of VW's victims. In the words of the town's church superintendent, compensation and reconciliation go hand in hand.

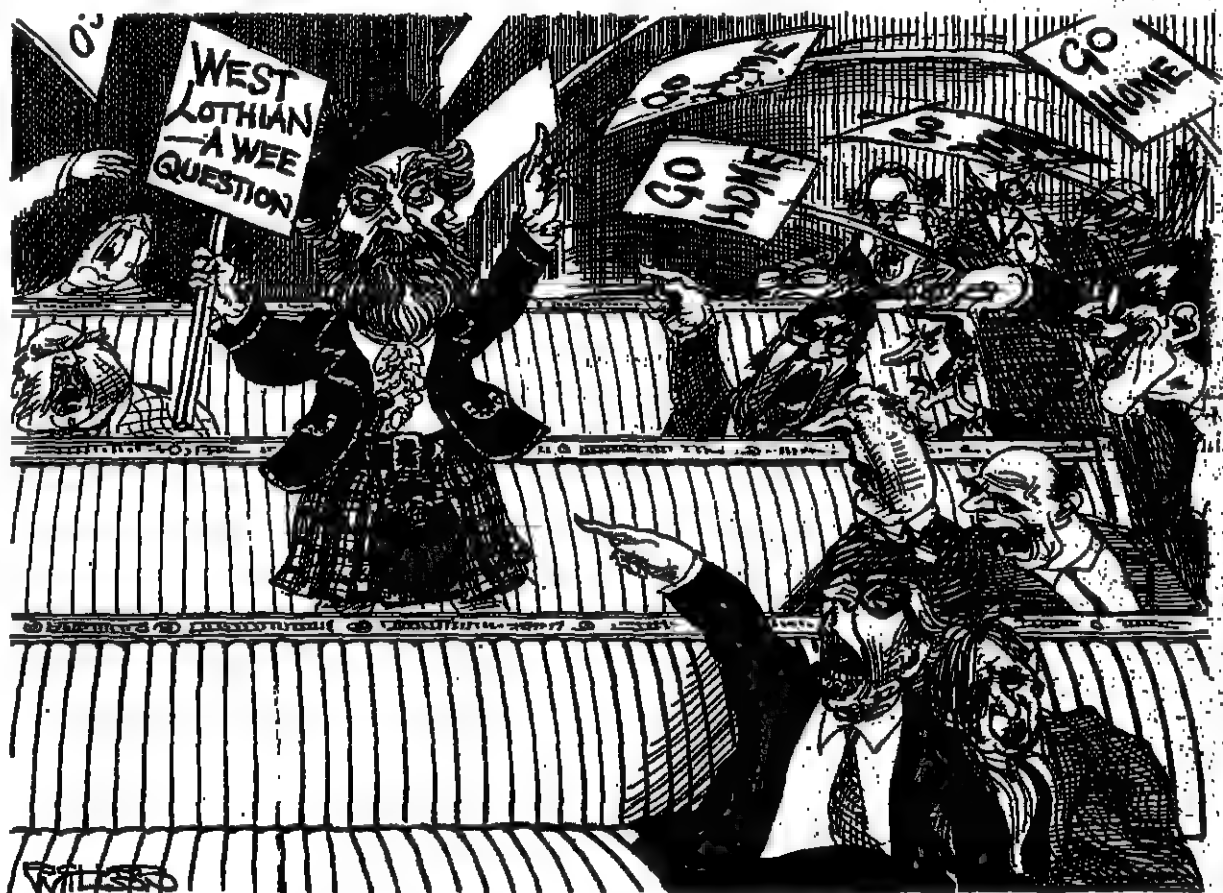
Out of kilter with the Commons

The position of Scots MPs has important implications for the whole House, says Peter Riddell

Duncan Sandys, the epitome of the old-style Tory, once allegedly told a complaining constituent that he was elected "to represent Streatham in Westminster, not Westminster in Streatham". Apocryphal or not, this story summed up a view of the MPs' role that had been universal until the 1950s but was already an anachronism when Sandys retired from the Commons in 1974. The dilemma about the balance between being a national politician or local welfare officer remains, and faces a fresh challenge. In another illustration of what Tam Dalyell often calls the Law of Unintended Consequences over devolution, the creation of a Scottish parliament will fundamentally change the role of the 72 Members of the Commons from north of the border. This will inevitably open a debate about the function and number of all MPs.

There is no agreed job description of what an MP does, or should do. MPs do not sign a contract of employment. This was underlined by last year's study from Hay Management Consultants for the Review Body on Senior Salaries, which set out a general "job purpose", to "represent, defend and promote national interests and further the needs and interests of constituents wherever possible". The study then spent four pages listing possible roles and how much they can vary from MP to MP.

Other surveys have produced a diverse range and, even more important, big contrasts in expectations between the public and MPs, and between members of different parties, about the priority between national and constituency roles. Voters believe that the most important part of an MP's job is to deal with their problems and to represent their views, while most MPs stress contributing to



the national debate and checking the executive.

The Demos think-tank has suggested a constituents' charter for MPs, specifying what voters can expect of their Members. This idea has been taken up by Paddy Ashdown and some other Liberal Democrats. But apart from laying down maximum times taken to answer letters and the like, it is impossible to reduce the multi-faceted responsibilities of any MP to measurable or objective yardsticks. Is it, for instance, a measure of a "good" MP to ask lots of questions or to issue lots of press releases?

But however diverse the job, no one disputes the dramatic rise in the past 30 years in the amount of time spent on constituency work. A survey last year by

RIDDELL ON MONDAY

Research Services Limited suggested that MPs now spend two fifths of their 71.4 hours worked per week on constituency service when the House is in session, and a higher proportion in recesses. This is partly a result of higher unemployment, increased family breakdown, homelessness and a more discretionary welfare state. Members of the public are also less deferential and expect more from their MPs.

At the same time, an increasing number of MPs have been local councillors familiar with such casework, which they continue when elected to the Commons. An MP is a local ombudsman, a figure of authority who can get a

response from local, as well as central, bureaucrats. For many MPs, this is the most fulfilling aspect of their work.

The Hay study noted, however, the view of several MPs that the increased burden of constituency work was "dragging them away" from their traditional parliamentary role. This, of course, suits the party managers and, indeed, the Labour whips have been sending some new MPs away from Westminster for "constituency weeks". The balance is tilting too much in the local, rather than the national, direction.

But Scottish MPs are about to experience a sharp swing in the other direction. Let's say you live in Linlithgow and are worried about your child's school, the local hospital, housing, or local vandalism. It will be no good after

January 2000 writing to Mr Dalyell, your long-serving MP. He will say "sorry, this is no longer anything to do with me — you must contact the local member of the Scottish parliament". The matters being devolved account for most of those raised in MPs' postbags, apart from social security, the economy and unemployment.

Every month in its polls for *The Times*, MORI asks people to name the most important issues facing Britain today. Of those which regularly feature in the top eight, four (including education and health, the top two), will no longer be the responsibility of Westminster, but will be devolved to Edinburgh. This raising of issues is as true among Scots as among the British public as a whole. Moreover, in the poll taken just after the publication of the Government's White Paper, devolution was ranked ninth in importance by the Scottish public.

So Scotland's MPs at Westminster will have an odd life, no longer responsible for at least half the issues of most concern to their constituents. This is not an argument about devolution, but it would obviously mean a sea-change in recent expectations about what MPs should do, with implications for the whole House of Commons. And if Labour means what it says about decentralisation to local (and possibly regional) government in England (so far unproven), all MPs will be affected.

The constituency-welfare officer role is valuable, not least for keeping MPs in touch with voters' problems and concerns. But MPs should not let it undermine their national work at Westminster. This means that MPs should take a decision no longer to deal with matters which are properly the responsibility of those elected at a local level, or to a Scottish parliament. Otherwise, there is no point in such decentralisation. The other implication is that there should be fewer MPs, not just from Scotland but overall. If we are moving to a more diverse political structure, less concentrated on Westminster, the Commons should be smaller — say 450 against the current 699 — and it should concentrate more on national issues. At present, too many MPs are trying to do too much.

Ritz crackers

ONE of the last refuges from sweaty keep-fit fanatics has fallen. The Ritz Hotel, where a necktie is required to cross the threshold and the wearing of a tracksuit might cause an older concierge to faint, is building a "fitness centre".

The grande dame of London hotels, founded in 1906, has begun work on a gym to be situated on the top floor overlooking Piccadilly. Facilities will include the usual exercise bikes, weights, treadmills,

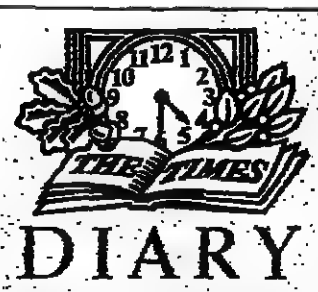
step-machines and a resident personal trainer.

The centre, which is expected to be open by the end of this year, is part of a refurbishment programme instigated by the reclusive twins David and Frederick Barclay, who bought the Ritz in 1995.

Those with longer associations with the hotel are appalled at the prospect of guests at large in gym kit, and question the demand for workouts in an establishment regarded as a byword for timeless elegance and ostentation. Regulars have included Evelyn Waugh, Nancy Mitford, Charles Chaplin and King Zog of Albania, and afternoon tea and early evening drinks in the Palm Court (where Tallulah Bankhead once swilled champagne from her shoe) are institutions.

"Quite who is going to use it as a gym I don't know," says a former general manager. "The Ritz is not some businessmen's hotel. It's not somewhere you go and spend an evening sweating off the pounds. César Ritz would turn in his grave."

The hotel insists that tracksuits will be kept out of the Palm Court.



"There will be a gymnasium-bar dispensing carrot juice and mineral water," says a spokeswoman. "In consideration of our other guests, we will be inviting anyone using the gym to change before coming downstairs."

Bad news

QUESTIONS are being asked of the charity Heal the World, set up to help children across the globe by the peculiar pop star Michael Jackson. The British arm of the charity is not doing very much healing. The Charity Commission has had a look at the organisation's accounts and found that a "significant" amount of the charity's income has gone on administration costs. "We are corresponding with the trustees to ascertain what their

plans are and that they are able to use the charity's assets to fulfil its purposes for the future," says a commission spokesman.

● A disclosure that some lucky priest will soon be hearing the confession of that old rascal Alan Clark makes the "Catholic of the Century" poll in this week's *Catholic Herald* all the more intriguing. Pope John XXIII is the overwhelming choice of readers, but the paper records that a single vote was also cast for Father Michael Seed, the priest who has been spending long hours explaining the faith to Clark.

Royal fan

THE Royal Family, beset by bleak polls detailing its declining popularity, has received a boost from South Africa. That country's Deputy Speaker, Baleka Mbete-Kgoitsile, has just completed a visit to Britain to investigate how our royals can be used as role models for traditional leaders in South Africa.

The trip, organised by the British Government, has not been universally understood back home, where cynics have asked noisy questions about toe-sucking duchesses and adulterous princes. Nevertheless,

the Deputy Speaker has stuck to her guns and, happily for the Royal Family, will have time to complete her report now that South Africa's Attorney-General has decided not to prosecute her over embarrassing accusations of a fraudulent application for an identity document.

Lost leader

TONY BLAIR's epic summer holiday may finally be at an end but the fallout from his sojourn is still



"Look out everybody, she's going to blow"

being felt in Tuscany. The village of San Gimignano, where the Blair entourage borrowed the villa belonging to Geoffrey Robinson, the millionaire Labour MP, has received so much media attention that neighbouring villages have become quite jealous. Greenest of all is Lucciana Nardi, where Blair stayed when he was Leader of the Opposition. Villagers are furious that no one realised who he was when he visited, and the opportunity was lost to make his presence for all it was worth. "The mayor is absolutely distraught," says one local chuckling in the olive groves.

● Correction from *The Journal*, Grantham: "In a letter printed in the July 25 issue of *The Journal*, Mr Edward Piniotti, of the Nobility Inn, Grantham, apparently described himself as a 'pillock of the community'. This was our error. Mr Piniotti described himself as a 'pillar of the community'. We apologise for any embarrassment."

Hot shots

IF the impending marriage of budding Australian tycoon James Packer and model Kate Fischer is to prosper, one suspects they may have to work on the communication thing. James, son of the media



Model wife: Kate Fischer

mogul Kerry, has been busily trying to buy up some of the more revealing shots from his fiancée's past to prevent their publication. Meanwhile, Fischer, who came to the world's attention when she joined Elle Macpherson in a pond in Sirens, has been shooting a calendar, in which clothes are not the most important feature — and the poses unlike those expected of a corporate wife.

P.H.S



OUR ISLAND STORY

Ms Short should be ashamed of her treatment of Montserrat

This Government's brazen elephant has put her foot in it again. Diplomacy has never been a strength of the Secretary of State for International Development, Clare Short. For her supporters, it is Ms Short's directness that charms. Even by her own standards, however, she has miscalculated grievously in her response to the plight of the citizens of Montserrat. The inhabitants of the volcano-devastated island are British dependants. Their welfare is not just a cause for humanitarian concern, but the direct moral and political responsibility of British ministers — Ms Short in particular.

Instead of dealing gracefully and generously with their plight, Ms Short has shown all the sympathy to those in difficulty of the finest Victorian Treasury mandarins towards the victims of the Irish Famine. A proper reluctance to spend taxpayers' money is, in any case, proving as politically imprudent as she is fiscally insensitive. Ms Short has declined to visit Montserrat pleading, like an overpressed Duchess, that her diary is full. She cited visits to Bangladesh, Hong Kong and Africa as pressing engagements. Yet, as our political correspondent reports, it will be weeks before she has to visit any of them. She has a free fortnight before flying to Bangladesh when she might take the trouble to hear direct from Montserratians whether or not the island's ministers are "dishonest" in their pleas on their people's behalf.

Even if Ms Short were the busiest of ministers, should she not alter her arrangements to ensure that she can travel to an island for which she has direct responsibility? Is that not more important than jetting to lands where she is, however well-intentioned, only a visiting dignitary and not the responsible minister? Montserrat's people are not asking for golden elephants, nor even creature comforts, but simply treatment with dignity and a bare minimum of security. Is that too much to ask?

and emergency relief. Ms Short has responded to Caribbean cries for help by dismissing them as "hysterical scare-mongering" and accused the representatives of Montserrat's people of playing "silly political games" and "talking mad money".

Ms Short's folly may lead to expenditure of really "mad money". By refusing to ensure that sufficient resources are available for other Caribbean islands to take in Montserrat's people, Ms Short only makes it more likely that refugees will come to Britain, placing an open-ended burden on the welfare state which could run to hundreds of millions of pounds. Far fewer millions invested now in helping Antigua to settle Britain's debt of honour to Montserrat would be both more humane and ultimately much more prudent.

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POISON FROM PALE

Why Nato should intervene in the Bosnian Serb media battle

Far from being a sideshow in the struggle for power between Biljana Plavsic, the elected President of Republika Srpska, and the Pale-based clique around Radovan Karadzic, the effort to free Bosnian Serb radio and television (SRT) from the control of Dr Karadzic's henchmen could determine Bosnia's political future. So long as Dr Karadzic continues to dominate the airwaves, Mrs Plavsic's efforts to break the power of his criminal mafia will be severely handicapped. His aim is to convince Bosnian Serbs that she is a quisling President, in league with their new enemy, the Nato-led Stabilisation Force (Sfor) in Bosnia.

Ever since the start of fighting in what was Yugoslavia, unscrupulous political manipulation of the broadcast media has been used to inflame intercommunal hatreds. Inflammatory propaganda remains a weapon in the hands of the enemies of peace. This is a last frontier of disarmament which Nato-led forces should hesitate no longer to cross.

The technique was pioneered by Serbia's strongman, Slobodan Milosevic, who used Second World War footage of atrocities by Croat Ustache Fascist forces, allied to the occupying Nazis, to reopen old war wounds and stir up Serb paranoia. Croatia's President Franjo Tudjman responded in kind. Although dozens of tiny independent stations now operate in Serbia, Croatia and Bosnia, they reach only local audiences. Political control and abuse of the state broadcasting stations which, above all in rural areas, are almost the only medium of information, is as formidable an obstacle to the patching together of Bosnia under the Dayton accord as it was effective in tearing communities apart.

Under the 1995 Dayton accords, the Nato-led forces in Bosnia have all along been empowered to close down biased television and radio stations. Nato also undoubtedly has

the capacity to assist the many journalists ready to fight for a free press to reach a wider public. But Nato governments have, mistakenly, been reluctant to intervene.

Now, in retaliation for last week's decisive action by Sfor's British contingent to shore up the authority of Mrs Plavsic, Dr Karadzic has turned his black propaganda against Nato itself. Since the middle of last week, broadcasts generated in Pale and transmitted throughout Srpska have repeatedly carried footage in which Second World War film of occupying Nazi forces and their Croat Ustache Fascist collaborators has been blended with carefully "antiquated" clips of British Sfor troops and tanks. This incendiary material is still running, in defiance of an ultimatum issued to Pale on Friday by Mrs Plavsic and by Carlos Westendorp, the international High Representative, and a revolt by the staff of SRT in Banja Luka.

Mrs Plavsic and the SRT journalists are powerless to act, because Karadzic loyalists control the Kozara transmission mast in the hills high above Banja Luka, near Prijedor. Nato has always been aware of the importance of the Kozara mast; it was a target of attack by US aircraft in the 1995 offensive that bombed the Serbs to the negotiating table and produced the Dayton peace plan.

Kozara lies in bitterly contested terrain. A Nato operation to remove the outlawed Karadzic secret police protecting it would be risky. But not to act would be riskier still. The West has every interest in the success of Mrs Plavsic's bid to restore order to Republika Srpska. She has dissolved the parliament dominated by Karadzic cronies and called fresh elections in October. To win, she needs to get her law and order message across to all Bosnian Serbs. Nato should silence Pale's propaganda machine well in advance of the vote that, with Western backing, she has courageously sought.

ERMION, APE AND BEARE

A welcome to poetry in the pens

Visitors to London Zoo will soon find a new specimen in the menagerie. A poet is to be installed in residence. There will be rhymes for the rhinos, pentameters for the penguins and couplets for the crocodiles.

Animals are an obvious source of literary inspiration. The most primitive poems of any kind — ancient hunting charms and charmed spells — must have taken wild beasts as their theme. Magical monsters stalk the warrior realms of our oldest literature. Beowulf, thought to have been composed more than 1,200 years ago, is haunted by Grendel, a dragonish embodiment of evil. But it was not just mythical monsters which enthralled past readers. The Old English Exeter Book makes riddling play with descriptions of the bull and the barnacle goose, the swan and the "sea-suckled" oyster.

Menageries and aviaries also date back to ancient times, and from the late medieval period in particular rulers enjoyed private collections. Many of these were to form the starting points of public exhibits. By the 16th century, as an age of discovery dawned and navigators brought bizarre specimens home, the exotic fauna of the world became more familiar.

Poets found in them a rich source of imagery. In *Arcadia*, Sir Philip Sidney

relishes his descriptions of the "mowing" Ape and the whitest-skinned Ermon, the Camelion with its "ease to change" and the "climbing Beare". Some poets even collected beasts. Dante Gabriel Rossetti owned an extensive menagerie in his Chyne Walk home and wrote ditties which revelled in the wonders of his menagerie.

Of course, a primary purpose of zoos is scientific. Captive breeding programmes serve a valuable purpose. But in recent years zoos such as London have focused increasingly on educational programmes. A poet in residence would be an integral part of this. A poem displayed outside a pen will extend information about the animals inside beyond the realm of scientific fact into the world of the imagination. Does not Louis MacNeice's description of elephants — with the "efficacy of engines" and "obstinacy of darkness" — heighten our sense of awe? Would not Hilaire Belloc's admonition to the imperious boy whose name was Jim serve as a salutary warning outside the big cats' enclosure: Jim was eaten by slow degrees, first his toes and then his knees.

At London Zoo the layout of the chimp cages is constantly being altered to keep the animals stimulated and alert. The introduction of poetry outside the pens will bring the same freshness to the visitor's environment.

Greenpeace-BP row over science

From Dr David Cromwell

Sir, As a former oil company geophysicist, now involved in climate research, I have to take issue with your leader on the dispute between BP and Greenpeace ("Out of its depth", August 20). I regard Greenpeace's science as solid and its tactics as necessary if attention is to be drawn to the threats associated with climate change.

In 1996 it was the considered judgment of the world's top climate scientists, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, that "the balance of evidence suggests a discernible human influence on global climate". This is primarily the result of fossil fuel burning. The IPCC advocated an urgent 60 to 80 per cent cut in emissions of greenhouse gases in order merely to stabilise the Earth's climate.

Businesses represented by the Global Climate Consortium (amongst whom are several oil companies) are deliberately rubbishing the IPCC's science, in a cynical move to resist the need to modify their damaging operations. It is only through the pressure of Green campaigners that BP recently left the GCC, although Shell and Texaco, amongst others, remain members.

The underlying truth is that our consumer society is so dependent on fossil fuels that in its greed to extract them, environmental and social concerns have been downgraded. The oil companies' vision of sustainability hinges on greater energy use, not less. This is why they bear the brunt of concerted campaigns by the Green movement.

Profligate energy consumption, whether by burning oil, coal, gas or even use of renewable sources, is symptomatic of a non-sustainable society.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID CROMWELL (Member,
Southampton Green Party),
32 Avenue Road,
Southampton, Hampshire.
ddc@soc.soton.ac.uk
August 20.

From the Acting Executive
Director of Greenpeace

Sir, Your leading article today states that BP "has science on its side" and then goes on to provide not a scrap of evidence.

You state, as part of your argument, that renewable energy is "decades away" from substituting for fossil fuels. Yet BP themselves have just completed a study which shows that if half the amount BP spent on the Foinaven oilfield was invested to mass-produce solar panels, solar power would become cost competitive with fossil fuels overnight. The ability of renewables to replace fossil fuels is a function of the direction of investment and political will.

Your statement that Greenpeace wants a unilateral British phase-out of fossil fuels within 40 years is incorrect. We have simply pointed out that existing predictions imply that a carbon budget set to meet UN ecological limits on climate change — identified to protect ecosystems and human populations — will be exceeded in 30 years if no action is taken. This is the reason why Greenpeace is lobbying for a binding international agreement to be reached on carbon dioxide emissions when governments meet in Kyoto this December.

If we are to slow down climate change, investment must switch now, away from developing new fossil fuel reserves and into solar and other alternatives. Even the chief executive of BP has accepted that the weight of scientific evidence on climate change means that action must be taken.

The problem is not a lack of oil, but that we have too much. The question is not whether we need to change, but who is going to act and when?

Yours sincerely,
CHRIS ROSE,
Acting Executive Director,
Greenpeace,
Canonbury Villas, N1,
August 20.

Rubella vaccine

From the Chief Executive of Sense,
the National Deafblind and Rubella Association

Sir, Your feature about the possible side-effects of the MMR vaccine on young children (August 19) raises important concerns and we strongly support the need for further research in this area. In the interest of balance, however, it should be emphasised that the rubella vaccine has been highly successful in reducing the incidence of rubella in pregnant women, and its consequent devastating effects on unborn children.

Between 1971 and 1975, for example, at least 360 children were born with congenital rubella syndrome (CRS). Many of these were born both deaf and blind, often with additional heart, brain and physical impairments. The distressing consequences for them and their families are obvious. Between 1990 and 1995, fewer than 25 babies were born with CRS, entirely owing to the successful introduction of the MMR programme.

Yours faithfully,
RODNEY CLARK,
Chief Executive, Sense,
1143 Clifton Terrace, N4,
August 19.

Sport letters, page 35

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1X 9XN Telephone 0171-762 5000

'Arrogant campaign' to free Hindley

From Mr Gerald Long

Sir, Lord Longford's constant urging of the valid redemption of Myra Hindley and the justice of her plea for release (letters, August 20, 21) recalls similar pleading of an earlier Roman Catholic apologist, D. B. Wyndham Lewis, on behalf of the most abominable child murderer whose record is known, Marshall Gilles de Raiz.

The Marshal (1804-40), one-time companion-in-arms of Joan of Arc, murdered some 150 children. He tortured them hideously. It is difficult even to read the record of his crimes.

Wyndham Lewis, in his book *The Soul of Marshall Gilles de Raiz*, records this episode before the trial, condemnation and execution of Gilles de Raiz.

The Carmelite had visited him, and heard him in confession, and given him a penance and sacramental absolution, and the burden of all his years of horrible and now repeated sin had been lifted from him by the murmur of a simple, tremendous formula, and his soul made clean as a newly baptised child's.

For those who hold Lord Longford's beliefs it must be a powerful consolation to know that even the most abominable criminal can be washed clean of his crimes, redeemed and absolved, made as innocent as a child, by a brief ritual and "a simple, tremendous formula". How much more easily must the soul of a lesser sinner achieve redemption.

Lord Longford must know that those of us who do not share his simple faith believe, in all humility, that there are crimes that no power known to man can wash away. Holding that belief, the thought of Myra Hindley's walking free is as repellent as Lord Longford's campaign on her behalf.

It is an arrogant campaign, based as it surely is on the attitudes of a tiny minority. We might reasonably wish to be spared any continuation.

Yours faithfully,
GERALD LONG,
15 Rue d'Aumale, 75009 Paris,
August 22.

Increasing risks from elderly drivers

From Dr Mark Dancy

Sir, The dangers posed by elderly drivers are increasing. In 1996, 89 deaths of young, inexperienced drivers fell 10.2 per cent between 1986 and 1995, but over a similar period there was a huge increase (over 80 per cent) in fatalities in those aged 70 or over. Women above the age of 70 are now more likely to be involved in an accident than young, inexperienced female drivers.

Whereas the skills of younger drivers improve with time and experience, those of the elderly are usually diminishing. With steadily increasing life expectancy the problem can only get worse, and it is time politicians had the courage to tackle what has previously been seen as a politically difficult issue.

Actually it is not so difficult. Everyone's co-ordination and speed of thinking reduces with age. Therefore competence must be regularly assessed. Until an accident happens, nobody, apart from drivers or their general practitioners, have any responsibility or power to question driving competence.

Many people now in their forties and fifties see their elderly parents' driving deteriorate and face the heart-breaking decision whether to tell them that they should stop. It is unreasonable for society to expect them to perform this role. Neither are doctors

trained to assess driving ability. The task needs to be given to the same people who test younger drivers.

This adds up to regular driving tests after a certain age, say 70 years. The over-seventies should not feel threatened by this. Those that fail the test could apply for a retake after some lessons if they felt able.

Although loss of a car is undoubtedly a major blow for geographically isolated people, is it right that their "freedom" should be maintained at such a potential cost?

Yours faithfully,
MARK DANCY,
41 Berwyn Road, Richmond, Surrey,
August 21.

From Mr David Mungall

Sir, In these days of political correctness it is not curious that the phrase "one lady owner" remains prevalent in adverts for second-hand cars. Clearly the "lady" owners themselves believe this to carry a host of positive connotations relating to low mileage and pristine condition.

Unfortunately, these are all sexist, eg. only used for shopping, only used for the school run. These women are sacrificing equality for a quick sale.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID MUNGALL,
Flat 1, 372 Langside Road, Glasgow,
August 19.

A problem shared

From Mr Stephen J. Coines

Sir, There are two phrases now in common use which I find most obnoxious. The first is "coming to terms with" and the second, "receiving counselling for" (report, "Counselling caution on a cure-all for life's ills", August 19).

There are individuals who, during the course of medical or psychiatric treatment, benefit from counselling as a part of their therapy. But this is far removed from the latest craze to counsel people for every conceivable occurrence in day-to-day life.

How did we attain our former position in the world? Behind every leader and great general, was there an army of counsellors helping them to "come to terms with" the consequences of their actions or of decisions taken in the field of battle? What has happened to our bulldog spirit?

Weather forecasts

From the Chief Executive of
The Meteorological Office

Sir, Mr Andy Marks (letter, August 16; letters, August 19 and 21) takes the Meteorological Office to task for what he sees as recent low levels of forecast accuracy and a more general lack of clarity in our performance targets.

The Meteorological Office is a world leader in the provision of weather services, and our forecasts have continued to show steady and significant improvements for several decades. Recent improvements are illustrated by a 6 per cent increase in the accuracy of our global computer predictions since March 1995.

Mr Marks is quite right that the accuracy of the 5.5pm Radio 4 forecast (a measure of our performance in delivering the Public Meteorological Service) is no longer published on its

I am sure the only way to overcome trauma is to let time heal the mental wounds, not to keep them open through counselling.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN J. COINES,
233 Ubbertley Road,
Bentley,
Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire.
albrindley@staffs.nvnet.co.uk
August 19.

From Mr Peter Wade

Sir, Perhaps the counselling industry should talk this problem through and not become depressed.

If they support each other and get it out in the open they will suffer no long-term damage.

Yours empathetically,
PETER WADE,
70 Heath Road,
Letchworth, Hertfordshire,
August 19.

own. It is one element in a composite measure of a wide range of services we provide to our customers, which also includes gale warnings, aviation forecasts and freezing road warnings. However, I am sure that he would be pleased to know that last year's accuracy figure for the Radio 4 forecast was 86 per cent — a slight improvement on the previous year. Our current performance targets — agreed by ministers and laid before Parliament — are both demanding and wide-ranging, and include measures of accuracy, efficiency and quality of service. Mr Marks might like to judge us against these targets when we publish our annual report next year.

Yours faithfully,
PETER EWINS,
The Meteorological Office,
London Road, Bracknell, Berkshire,
August 19.

St Edmundsbury tower

From Mr Henry Russell

Sir, Perhaps the St Edmundsbury Cathedral Council, whose plans for a new cross-tower are being debated in your columns (letters, August 4 and 21), might consider a tower of good contemporary design.

There are examples of classical towers and aisles of the 18th century which sit happily with medieval churches — eg. Blockley in Gloucestershire and Woodstock in Oxfordshire — and of course Coventry Cathedral was largely rebuilt after the war in contemporary style.

In a paper written in 1893 for the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, William Morris castigated restorations of Westminster Abbey by a succession of architects, declaring:

The western towers omitted by the mediæval builders were supplied in the same style, having been probably designed by Wren and carried out by Hawksmoor and remain in good condition, as monuments of the incapacity of the seventeenth and eighteenth century architects to understand the works of their forefathers, and perhaps one might say that they furnish a whole lesson to future ages not to attempt the imitation of a past epoch of art.

Yours faithfully,
HENRY RUSSELL,
Ley Mary Farmhouse,
Windrush, Burford, Oxfordshire,
August 21.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-762 5046, e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

A dressing down during August

From Mr Peter Croft

Sir, Everyone writes letters to *The Times* about the weather (August 16, 19, 21) but nobody does anything about it. Why not?

For some time enlightened employers have allowed their staff a dress-down Friday, provided that they have no external engagements. Contrary to what I recall to have been highly confident predictions, neither Western civilisation nor the economy has collapsed.

Has the time not come to declare August a dress-down month, irrespective of external engagements? During it, clothing will of course remain sober, modest and clean, but may be loose, short, open and, above all, washable.

Such an action will at least erode decades of vicious and unprincipled discrimination against men in the workplace. It will do more than John Prescott ever can to encourage the use of public transport, at least of the Tube, in summer. And it may hasten the day when we regard suits, shoes and ties for summer wear with the same bewildered contempt that we now extend to crinolines and powdered wigs.

Yours faithfully,
PETER CROFT,
Blackmore,
20 Tenison Avenue, Cambridge,
August 22.

Luggage out of hand

From Mr Ray Dicks

Sir, On arrival at airport check-in desks we are told that passengers are allowed to take only one piece of hand luggage on board. This rule is disregarded by many passengers whose excess baggage monopolises the luggage racks to the inconvenience and danger of more law-abiding travellers.

On a recent flight to Oslo one young woman attempted to stow five assorted pieces of baggage on the overhead rack, including one which the cabin steward insisted must be stowed in the main hold. She was not the only culprit.

Surely this dangerous practice should be stopped before the offending passenger is allowed to board the aircraft?

Yours faithfully,
RAY DICKS,
19 Florida Court,
76 Westmoreland Road,
Bromley, Kent,
August 22.

Bosie's gift

From Ms Moira Shannon

Sir, The so-called "pastiche" engraved by "Bosie" on Oscar Wilde's cigarette case (report and photograph, August 22) suggests a reference to the poem *The Phoenix and the Turtle* by Shakespeare, which uses imagery from alchemy to describe the perfect union of the phoenix and the turtle dove through self-immolation and rebirth as one in the eternal flame. The verses read:

Here the anthem does commence:
Love and Constancy are dead.
Phoenix and the Turtle died
In a mutual love from hence.
So they loved as love in twain
Had the essence but in one.
Two distinct, division none.
Number there in love was slain.

The original is perhaps not much better than the pastiche.

Yours faithfully,
MOIRA SHANNON,
61 Munceaster Road, SW11,
August 22.

From Miss Deborah Maccoby

Sir, Your report says that the five lines inscribed by Lord Alfred Douglas on a cigarette case he gave Oscar Wilde on the latter's release from Reading jail appear "to be Bosie's attempt at a pastiche of John Donne". The lines actually come word for word from Donne's poem *The Canonisation*.

Yours faithfully,
DEBORAH MACCOBY,
Airedale,
Sack Road, Clapton, E5,
August 22.

Animate objects

From Mr T. C. Carbury

Sir, As well as being alarmed or de-raanged (letters, August 12, 13, 14 and 19) it seems that pleasant emotions are also within the scope of modern machines. A catalogue of pneumatic equipment offers Captivated Push Buttons. The source of their enchantment is unexplained.

Yours faithfully,
TIM CARBURY,
11 Collier Close,
Cove, Hampshire,
August 19.

From Mr Andrew Gardner

Sir, I recently brought home some shopping in a carrier bag bearing the legend "made from post-consumer recycled plastics". I don't know what it means, but it sounds ominous.

Yours faithfully
A. GARDNER,
22 Birdbrook House,
Popham Road, N1,
agardner@essex.ac.uk
August 19.

COURT CIRCULAR

CLARENCE HOUSE

August 23: Lady Penn has succeeded Mrs Michael Gordon-Lennox as Lady in Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

BALMORAL CASTLE

August 24: Divine Service was held in Craigh Parish Church this morning.

The Right Reverend Alexander McDonald (Moderator of the General Assembly) preached the Sermon.

Birthdays today

Mr Martin Amis, author, 48; Miss Anne Archer, actress, 50; Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Armistead, 67; Mr Jonathan Ashley-Smith, conservationist, 51; Mr Conrad Black, chairman of The Telegraph, 53; Mr Sean Connery, actor, 67; Lord Dunsany, 91; Sir Malcolm Field, chairman, Civil Aviation Authority, 60; Mr Frederick Forsyth, author, 59; Mr Andrew Gardner, broadcaster, 65; Professor Peter Gray, FRS, former Master, Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, 71; Viscount Hardinge, 41; Mr Howard Jacobson, novelist and critic, 55; Sir Donald Logan, former diplomat, 80; Lord McGregor of Durris, 76; Mr Angus Mitchell, former chairman of court, Stirling University, 73; Mr Brian Moore, novelist, 76; Mr David Richards, former deputy chairman, Monopolies and Mergers Commission, 69; the Earl of Rothes, 59; Miss Margaret Rothwell, diplomat, 59; Sir Crispin Tickell, Chancellor, University of Kent at Canterbury, 67; Mrs M.S. Trenaman, former Principal, St Anne's College, Oxford, 78; Professor Anne Warner, FRS, physiologist, 57.

Appointment

Mr Justice (Richard) Buxton to be a Lord Justice of Appeal from October 1, in place of Sir Anthony May who will be retiring on September 30.

Latest wills

Kenneth Rawling Goodall, of Holbeck Hill, Scarborough, left estate valued at £14,245,437 net.

George John Walford Turner, company director, of Honington, Shropshire, left estate valued at £4,234,018 net.

Fiona Mary Shepherd-Cross, of Norton, Worcester, left estate valued at £5,343,722 net.

Nature notes

ROBINS are singing again after a month of silence. The adult males and females, and this year's young birds, are all taking up individual winter territories and challenging each other on the boundaries. The young robins have a more faltering song.

Southbound migration is gathering pace: wheatears are appearing on deserted playing-fields, while chiffchaffs and willow warblers are stopping over to feed and sing in gardens. Great shearwaters have been reported off the coast: these sea-wanderers, by contrast, have come up to our waters from the South Atlantic. Exotic strays from the Continent seen yesterday were an ortolan bunting and a rose-coloured starling.

Everywhere flowers are turning to seed. Wild basil has furry spheres all the way up the stem: rosebay willow-herb has feathery seeds that

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.R. Elderfield and Miss A.J. Pratt
The engagement is announced between Jeremy, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Robert Elderfield, of Brookmans Park, Hertfordshire, and Alison, second daughter of Mr and Mrs David Pratt, of Carmel, California.

Mr C.L. Frey and Miss R.S.L. Cohen
The engagement is announced between Colin, younger son of Professor and Mrs Monty Frey, of Reading, Berkshire, and Réjane, eldest daughter of Mme Odette Cohen-Perey, of Paris, and of M. Leon Cohen, of Toulouse.

Marriages

Mr A.M.K. Barlow and Miss V.M. Buxton
The marriage took place on Saturday at the Church of St Mary the Virgin, East Bergholt, Suffolk, of Mr Michael Barlow, third son of Sir John Barlow and of Lady Barlow, of Cheshire, to Miss Veronica Buxton, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Andrew Buxton, of Bentley. The Rev John Drury officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Laura Buxton, Jack Barlow and James Wood. Mr David Barlow was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr B.A. Dyer and Miss M.C. Munn
The marriage took place on Saturday, at St Leonard's Church, Cliddesden, Hampshire, of Mr Brian Dyer, son of Mr and Mrs Brian Dyer, of Braintree, Essex, to Miss Clare Munn, daughter of Dr and Mrs Donald Munn, of Basingstoke, Hampshire. The Rev Vaughan Roberts officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by her sisters Fiona and Camilla Munn and by Alexander and Huw Kendray. Mr Andrew Charlton was best man.

A reception was held at Saccage House, Basingstoke and the honeymoon is being spent in Italy.

Mr and Mrs H.L. Lewis

The marriage took place on Saturday, August 23, 1997, in Chelsea, between Robin and Helen, of Brompton-on-Swale, Richmond, North Yorkshire.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Bret Harte, writer, Albany, New York, 1836; Leonard Bernstein, composer, Lawrence, Massachusetts, 1918.

DEATHS: Sir William Herschel, astronomer, Slough, 1822; Michael Faraday, physicist, near Hampton Court, 1867; Friedrich Nietzsche, philosopher, Weimar, 1900; George, Duke of Kent, killed on active service, near Dunbeath, Scotland, 1942; Stanley Bruce, 1st Viscount Bruce of Melbourne, Prime Minister of Australia 1923-29, London, 1967.

Captain Matthew Webb became the first person to swim the English Channel, 1875.

Ramsay MacDonald formed a national Government, 1931.

General de Gaulle entered Paris after its liberation, 1944.

Marvels from age of travelling carousels give way to push-button fun

When all the fun of the fair has to end

By JOHN SHAW

THE age of interactive electronic entertainment has led to the sale of probably the finest collection of traditional fairground art in Britain.

Seahorses, tigers and a variety of farmyard animals from old-fashioned roundabouts at Woolley Hole Caves in Somerset are to be sold on October 6. The Christie's auction is expected to make about £400,000.

The 300 lots date from an age of carousels and gallopers of travelling fairs that toured towns and villages in the Victorian. They include carved panels and pieces salvaged from showmen's yards. Some firms specialised in the highly decorative work required, such as Arthur Anderson of Bristol, Orton & Spooner of Burton upon Trent, and Savages of King's Lynn, Norfolk.

Among the 120 animals and 70 decorated pieces are items from France, Germany and Belgium and several rarities from the Dentzel workshop in Philadelphia. They were originally brought over in the 1930s as props for the Rogers and Hammerstein musical *Carmen*.

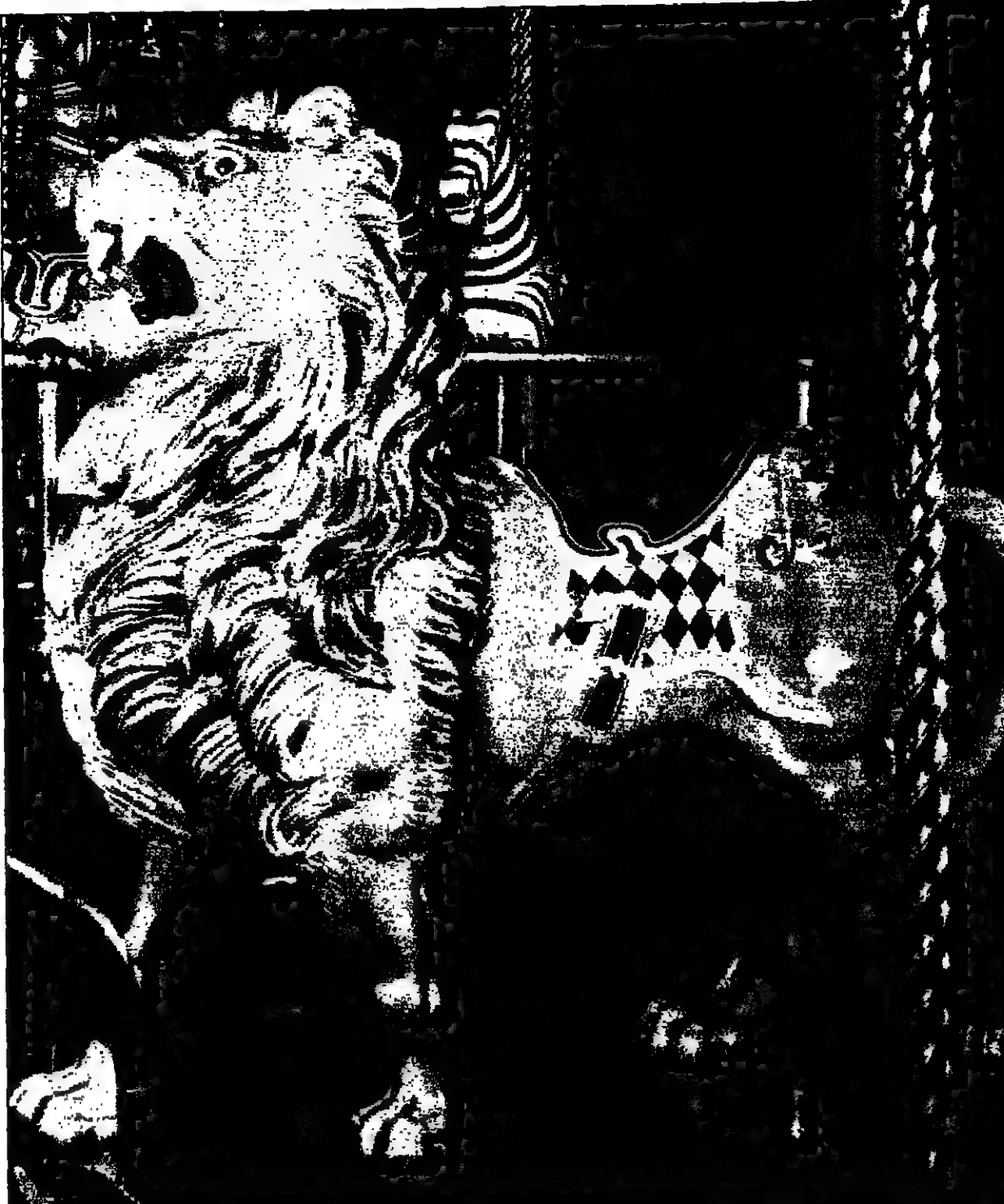
The collection was initially started by Lord and Lady Bangor in the period 1960-70. They ran a small antique shop called Trad in Portobello Road, Notting Hill. The Beatles *Sergeant Pepper* album made such nostalgia fashionable and the couple eventually sold their collection to the Tussauds Group, which put it on show at Woolley Hole in 1973.

The tourist attraction went through a management buy-out in 1989 but Tussauds retained the collection.

Sue Cuthill, in charge of the sale at Christie's South Kensington, said: "A lot of these craftsmen were famous in their day and these attractions are lovely to look at. The collection is a rare survival from the past because so much of our fairground art has simply disappeared."

Martin Powell, for Woolley Hole, said: "Society is changing and this material is museum stuff. Kids and adults want to do things, they want hands-on activities nowadays. We analysed that out of the two and a half hours it takes families to go through the complex they were spending just two and a half minutes in the fairground."

Peter Haylings, managing director of the caves, will replace the collection with an interactive attraction after Christmas.



Above, a roaring lion made in the last century by the Dentzel workshop in Philadelphia; below, an Orton & Spooner galloping dragon of 1920, and a C.J. Spooner centaur of 1890, its torso modelled as General Kitchener



Archaeology days show that past is still same enchanted place

By NORMAN HAMMOND
ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

ICE Age caves, Neolithic revolution, and medieval mayhem are being offered to young people next month by the Creswell Crags visitor centre, the Buxton Museum, both in Derbyshire, and Donington-le-Heath manor house in Leicestershire.

In Scotland the Marischal Museum has an heraldic hunt

around Aberdeen, and Techno Time Travellers will occupy the great hall of the Royal Museum of Scotland with an ancient technology workshop. They are among more than 150 events being held on sites and in museums from Cornwall to the Hebrides for National Archaeology Days on September 13 and 14. Although this year's events form part of the European Heritage Days initiative, they also celebrate the silver anniversary of

the Young Archaeologists' Club, and many of the events will be run by and for club members. The club was launched in 1972 with an article in *The Times*. Its first newsletter carried instructions for making a model Stonehenge from plaster slabs cast in matchboxes. Founded by Dr Kate Pretty, then a young Cambridge don and now Principal of Hornorton College, the club, initially called Young Rescue,

now has Tony Robinson, of the television programme *Time Team*, as its president. Among the archaeology days' events will be a medieval battle re-enactment by "the Knights of Longshanks" at Brookhol in the Lake District, salt-boiling at Northwich in the heart of the Cheshire medieval salt-making region, tours of the ancient copper mines of nearby Alderley Edge, and daubing a reconstructed Iron Age roundhouse

at Letchworth, Hertfordshire. In Wales, the Celts will hold open house at the Museum of Welsh Life, St Fagan's, outside Cardiff. The Roman Army will invade Caerleon, Newport, and produce Roman food at the legionary museum, and members of the Sealed Knot will illuminate the Civil War at the National Museum in Cardiff.

The Young Archaeologists' Club and the National Archaeology Days are both run

by the Council for British Archaeology. Dr Richard Morris, the council's director, said: "Archaeology has become bigger, more complicated, more organised but the past is still the same enchanted place."

Information on archaeology days and the Young Archaeologists' Club can be obtained from Juliet Mather at the council (111 Walmgate, York YO1 2UA. Tel: 01904-67417; fax 01904-671834).

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DIAMOND ANNIVERSARIES

BOOTH - Jan and Dorella (nee Lindsay), were married on 23rd August 1937 at St. Catherine's Church, Ealing.

BIRTHS

DANIEL - On August 21st at Dorchester to Jane and Robert, a son, James, a brother to Jack.

DEATHS

ELKINS - Michael John, on August 21st at home. Very much loved and missed by his whole family. Funeral service on Thursday 28th August, 10.30am, to St. Peter's Church, Ealing. Tel: 01722 413126. Family flowers only.

MARRIAGES

QUINER-PREDDY - The wedding blessing took place on August 23rd at St. Charles The Martyr, Falmouth, between John Quiner and Christine Preddy, both of Falmouth.

ANNIVERSARIES

WEDDING - Between our old and new friends, celebrating their wedding anniversary, loving you now as always, Mary.

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OBITUARIES

SIR ERIC GAIRY

Sir Eric Gairy, PC, Prime Minister of Grenada, 1974-79, died on August 23 aged 75. He was born on February 19, 1922.

A flamboyant and extraordinary figure, even among the Caribbean politicians who were his contemporaries, Eric Gairy had once been a popular trade union leader and champion of the poor. Amoral, with a quick instinct for the opportune, he was unashamed by traditional practice or constitutional nicety, but for himself, there had to be pomp, circumstance and title. And once he assumed power as head of government in 1974, he began to give rein to an increasingly bizarre set of proclivities. Obsessed with flying saucers and witchcraft (matters of state on whose importance he liked to descend at length in speeches to the UN), he also became notorious for his private army, the Mongoose Gang, and was embroiled in numerous sex scandals.

Although he retained the loyalty of his original following among Grenada's poor for a surprisingly long time, he ended up being feared and loathed by the majority, and his stewardship of the island came to an end when he was ousted in a coup in 1979.

Eric Matthew Gairy began as an elementary schoolteacher in Grenada, and then went to Trinidad as a clerk. Afterwards, he was in Aruba, in the Dutch West Indies, where he helped to organise immigrant oil workers. He then returned to Grenada, in 1950 founding the Grenada Mutual and Mental Workers' Union.

His next step was the Grenada United Labour Party (GULP), and enthusiastically supported by agricultural workers, he led a series of well-justified strikes against the island's nutmeg and cocoa planters. The character of Boyeur in Alex Waugh's bestselling novel *Island*

in the Sun is undoubtedly based on Gairy.

Already he was well — too well — dressed. But his supporters, poor peasants from the largest rural parish, St Andrew, liked the mixture of dandified trashiness, of

audacity and success, and the way in which he took on the power of the establishment and the British colonial administration. In February 1974, members of his union were arrested in arson, looting and rape, in which three people were killed. In came British troops and police from other islands. Gairy was arrested, and detained for 14 days. This only helped him to the September elections, when the GULP won six of the eight elected seats on the Legislative Council. Gairy was now also appointed to the Executive Council — within weeks, he was

dismissed for allegedly suspending Legislative Council members, and in 1974 he lost his seat for overstaying his leave. Later he was suspended from the Legislative Council.

With the instigated measure of self-government granted to the smaller islands, Gairy held his first ministerial appointment as Minister of Trade and Production in 1976.

In the election of the latter year GULP failed to win, but the following year, Gairy's candidates won the two Grenadian seats in the Federal Parliament. On them the majority there rested. In 1981, Gairy returned to power as Chief Minister, and embarked on a personal spending spree with public funds. The Constitution was suspended and the Administrator gave wider powers to the election of September 1983 returned the seat to Herbert Blaize as Chief Minister. But Gairy was back in 1987, where he remained until overthrow by force in 1979.

Grenada was now an entirely internally self-governing Associated State. Gairy gathered an inner ring of henchmen, better educated



than himself, who could tamper with figures or put a legal gloss on his actions. His "Mongoose Gang" rough-handed his opponents. His daring public relations fair brought Caribbean and international meetings to the island, and his own vote on the judges' panel secured for Grenada the Miss World title.

His religiosity also showed in the great cross illuminated with electric bulbs, which shone fifty miles out to sea from above St George's, the capital. He went, after Grenada became independent, to the UN, where he spoke on inexpressible psychic phenomena, the Bermuda Triangle, and visitors from space. Some old opponents were now

disheartened or had accepted him. But new trade unions among the dockers, clerical and banking workers, with young middle-class professionals, began a vigorous opposition, including a prolonged strike, refusing to be intimidated, though Gairy's retainers treated them brutally. In the 1976 election, of the 16 seats, six went to a broad

alliance of his opponents, among them the middle-class leaders of the New Jewel Movement, Maurice Bishop and Bernard Coard.

On March 30, 1979, these latter moved against Gairy in a successful coup, taking power with 50 armed followers while Gairy was off the island on his way to talk to the UN on extraterrestrial phenomena. The New Jewel Movement was afterwards to hold that Gairy was about to have them "assassinated" by his forces with the knowledge of the US Ambassador in Barbados.

This was unlikely. Methodical butchery was not Gairy's line: (although Bishop's father had been murdered in a fracas), and neither was the complete control of freedom of expression which the New Jewel Movement's "people's" regime, based on Marxist principles, subsequently introduced.

Gairy spent the next four years in the US. In that time the Marxist regime was busy devouring itself. A rift in Bishop's Government led to his assassination. Finally, in October 1983, President Reagan's Administration, alarmed by Bishop's close ties with Cuba and the Soviet Union, sanctioned an invasion of the island by a strong force of US Marines and paratroopers, aided by a small regional force to give the incursion the appearance of legitimacy in the eyes of Grenada's Caribbean neighbours. The intervention, indeed, was accomplished to the relief of most Grenadians.

Gairy thought he saw a chance of re-establishing himself. He claimed "back pay" as Prime Minister, and wanted to return. He did indeed come back to Grenada some weeks after the invasion, but with no official standing, as he was regarded with some distaste by those Caribbean governments which had sent troops, by the US Government, and certainly by most in the interim Grenadian administration. In the December 1984 general election there was more than a

suggestion from Washington that, if Gairy's GULP were to win, US aid, on which the shattered island's economy mostly relied, would be cut. America did not wish to appear to have intervened to restore him: Gairy had a strong, vindictive streak, which would have had full play had he returned to power.

The Prime Ministers of the neighbouring islands, particularly Tom Adams of Barbados (they had jointly appealed to the US to take action, following the murder of Maurice Bishop), had pressured Grenadian politicians, past opponents of Gairy, to combine in a centrist party, the New National Party (NNP). The US saw to it that the NNP did not lack for a campaign chest. The result was a landslide, 15 out of the 16 seats.

GULP had the remaining seat. However, 36 per cent of voters had supported "Uncle" Gairy. Furious, he refused to recognise the result, and called on his sole successful candidate to resign. But he refused, as did the three GULP senators: all left the party.

Gairy now lived in very straitened circumstances, as the Government equivocated over restoring his land and property, taken by the revolutionary Government. He was also going blind, which he concealed. In the 1990 election, GULP gained four seats, but Gairy himself was unsuccessful. He never sat in Parliament again. GULP representation shrank to two in 1995.

He remained party leader, and his personal circumstances improved with the restoration of his property. In mid-1996 he had a stroke, from which he partly recovered.

He married Cynthia Clyne, of a genteel family: she served as Minister of Social Welfare, Culture and Co-operatives in his Cabinet. She and his two daughters survive him. One of them, Marcelle, is Grenada's High Commissioner in London.

DAVID RYCKROFT

David Ryckroft, linguist, ethnomusicologist and musician, died on August 8 aged 72. He was born on December 7, 1924.

DAVID RYCKROFT was a man at home in several diverse fields. He was an authority not only on the languages of southern Africa, but also on the traditional music and musical instruments of the region. His expertise extended to Western instruments, too, and he was a talented and versatile musician in his own right. As a brass player, with the Guild of Gentlemen Trumpeters, he was one of the pioneers of period-style performance of Baroque and Classical music. He was also an accomplished composer, and in the case of

Swaziland could claim the probably unique distinction of having compiled a country's national dictionary and written its national anthem.

David Kenneth Ryckroft was born in Durban. After his return from war service in Egypt and Italy with the South African Air Force, he took his BA in Bantu studies at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. He was

responsible for encouraging African music and art and for running an adult education centre. In the process, he began to study and collect the

music of the Zulu, Swazi and Xhosa. He thus became acquainted with Princess Constance Magogo kaDinuzulu, the mother of Chief Buthelezi, who had preserved many of the traditional songs of the area and also the musical instruments, including the musical bows, by then otherwise almost extinct.

Ryckroft published many articles on the music and instruments of southern Africa, and he was the first to describe clearly the true acoustical behaviour of the musical bow and to relate it to the Jews' strump, with which it shares a common repertoire in that area. He was also the first to think of transcribing the characteristic call and response style of much African music on a five-line staff drawn with

a compass, thus revealing with enhanced clarity the essential circularity of this music.

In the early 1950s he came to London, where in 1952 he was appointed to a lectureship in Bantu languages at the School of Oriental and African Studies, the University of London. He taught and compiled dictionaries and grammars for several of the Bantu languages of southern Africa at SOAS.

His ethnomusicological and linguistic abilities were complementary: the former were of major assistance in the recognition and study of pitch patterns in African languages. Combined with his skills as a composer of music in his own culture, they enabled him to compose, among a number of

other works, the national anthem of Swaziland, a *Diamond Jubilee March* for the late King Sobhuza and a *Coronation Fanfare* for King Mswati II.

He was a key participant in the Royal Anthropological Institute's symposium on ethnomusicology in Africa and Asia in 1962, and he remained an influential member of the RAI's ethnomusicology panel. SOAS awarded him a senior lectureship in Bantu studies in 1963, and a DLitt in 1985. In 1987 he retired, and was almost immediately elected honorary editor of the *Galpin Society Journal*, the most important and the most influential international publication on the study of musical instruments, a post he held with distinction for the rest of his life.

His skills in European music included, in addition to piano and composition, oboe and most brass instruments, and his interest in organology had led him to become a member of the Galpin Society while still in Johannesburg.

In 1962, in association with Edward Croft-Murray (then Keeper of Prints and Drawings at the British Museum), Eric Halfpenny and Joseph Wheeler, he became a member of the Guild of Gentlemen Trumpeters, who were among the first to revive the art of playing Baroque music on true natural trumpets, without valves or even such adventitious aids as the fingerholes to commonplace today.

They played at many ceremonial occasions throughout the country and, even though intonation and sometimes even the notes were not what would be expected of professional musicians today, this was where modern Baroque and Classical brass-playing on natural instruments began. He also taught brass instruments to many pupils at Michael Hall School.

David Ryckroft is survived by his wife Jacqueline and by two sons and two daughters.

SIR WILLIAM SWALLOW

Sir William Swallow, Chairman and Managing Director of Vauxhall Motors, 1961-66, died on August 6 aged 92. He was born on January 2, 1905.



IN A period when the motor car industry in Britain was not, in general, enjoying a harmonious time from the industrial relations point of view, William Swallow presided for five years over the most strike-free motor manufacturer in the country. As chief executive at Vauxhall, the British subsidiary of America's General Motors, he benefited both from a thorough practical grounding in mechanical engineering — which had begun with evening classes at Batley and Huddersfield Technical Colleges — and from his exposure to American management and marketing practices.

He therefore combined rugged Yorkshire straight-dealing with an awareness of what was best for his workforce, and a consciousness that the demands of the customer ought to be the most important factor in considerations of car design. In almost his first day in the chair at Vauxhall he ordered a mass public opinion poll to be organised at once, to establish what car buyers might wish to see improved in Vauxhall's output. He was very early aware that such unexpected features as safety, comfort and reliability were vital to the survival of car companies at a time when native British models tended to have a low reputation abroad for these qualities.

William Swallow was born at Gomersal, Yorkshire. From school he went to Batley and Huddersfield Technical Colleges to study engineering in the evenings while working at a Gomersal textile machinery manufacturer, and then at a Heckmondwike machine tool manufacturer.

For three years from 1923 he was a junior draughtsman with the commercial vehicle manufacturers Karrier Mo-

tors at Huddersfield before graduating to bus body design with Short Bros at Rochester.

After a short period with Gifford Motors at High Wycombe, he then spent ten years at Pressed Steel, at Oxford, where from 1939 onwards he was in charge of aircraft engineering. From 1943 he was back at Shorts as chief production engineer.

In 1947 he began his long association with General Motors, joining its Overseas Operations Division in New York, as development engineer. Returning to Britain 16 months later he climbed the GM ladder. He was managing director of GM in London, 1953-61, responsible for the company's British operations except Vauxhall cars. Characteristic Vauxhall models of the period of his chairmanship of the company, 1961-66, were the Velox and the Victor, and it was the launch of the latter, soon after he took over at Vauxhall, which prompted him to set up his poll of customers, to establish what they liked, and did not like, about the new model. It was

this kind of approach which helped Vauxhall to remain competitive in the marketplace in Britain.

In retirement from Vauxhall after 1966, Swallow was offered two posts: the chairmanship of the Economic Development Council for the Hotel and Catering Industries, and the chairmanship of the Shipbuilding Industry Board (SIB). The latter was something of a poisoned chalice, conferring a sense of responsibility without the power, at a time when the British shipbuilding industry was in majestic decline. The lengthy wrangle over the future of Upper Clyde Shipbuilders was only one of the problems to beset his five-year chairmanship of the SIB, and when he left in 1971 Swallow was still being critical of the industry's lack of corporate planning.

In retirement Swallow was a governor of Astridge College. He was knighted in 1967. He is survived by his wife Kathleen, whom he had married in 1929. They had no children.

Church news

Appointments
The Rev Michael Aikman, Curate, Andover w Foxton (Winchester), to be Team Vicar, Whitstable with responsibility for St Alphege (Canterbury).
The Rev Andrew Bailey, Vicar, Great Farringdon w Little Coxwell (Oxford), to be also Rural Dean of the Vale of the White Horse (same diocese).
The Rev Richard Betts, Curate, Mile Cross (Norwich), to be Team Vicar, Dorchester (Salisbury).
The Rev Andrew Burch, Team Vicar, New Windsor (Oxford), to be Vicar, Oxford St Giles, St Philip and St James w St Margaret.
The Rev Nicholas Calver, Vicar, St Edward the Confessor, Mottisham (Southwark), to be Vicar, St John the Evangelist, Redhill (same diocese).

The Rev Geoff Crago, NSM Assistant Curate, Highnam, Lassington, Rudford, Tibberton and Taynton (Gloucester), to be Bishop's Press Officer and Diocesan Communications Officer (same diocese).
The Rev Colin Crook, NSM, Christ Church, Dartford, and Diocesan Ecumenical Officer (Rochester), to be Priest-in-Charge, All Souls, Crockenhill, remaining Diocesan Ecumenical Officer (same diocese).
The Rev Andrew Doyle, Team Vicar, Kirkby (Liverpool), to be Vicar, Holy Trinity, Rotherhithe (Southwark).
The Rev Kevin Dunne, Priest-in-Charge, Ouse (Durham), to be also Rural Dean, Chester-le-Street (same diocese).
The Rev Michael Gooch,

NSM Curate, New Romney w Old Romney and Midley (Canterbury), to be Priest-in-Charge, Teynham (same diocese).
The Rev Iain Gow, Assistant Curate, St John, Kenilworth (Coventry), to be Assistant Curate, Birmingham St Martin (in Bull Ring) w Bordesley St Andrew (Birmingham).
The Rev Andrew Hutchinson, Succentor of Hereford Cathedral, to be Chaplain, Solihull School, Solihull (Birmingham).
The Rev David Johnson, Curate, Holy Trinity, Horfield (Bristol), to be Vicar, Two Mile Hill, St Michael (same diocese).
The Rev Michael Kavanagh, Vicar, Beverley St Nicholas, and Rural Dean of Beverley (York), to be Domestic Chaplain to Archbishop of York and

Director of Ordinands for the diocese (same diocese).
The Rev Sue Leathley, recently studying, to be Curate, Tonnet St Philomen, St Gabriel and St Cleopas (Liverpool).
The Rev Margaret Lum, Assistant Curate, Stanford-le-Hope, St Margaret w Mucking (Chelmsford), to be Assistant Curate, Rayleigh with special responsibility for St Michael's (same diocese).
The Rev Janet Muiridge, NSM Curate, Dorchester and Chaplain, Weymouth College (Salisbury), to be NSM Curate, Melbury, remaining Chaplain, Weymouth College (same diocese).
The Rev Martyn Neale, Vicar, St Michael and All Angels, Abbey Wood (Southwark), to be Vicar, Hawley Holy Trinity, and Minley (Guildford).

VISIT TO A MADHOUSE

At this visit, attended by the steward of the hospital, and likewise by a female keeper, we first proceeded to visit the women's galleries: one of the side rooms contained about ten patients, each chained by one arm or leg to the wall, the chain allowing them merely to stand up by the bench or form fixed to the wall, or to sit down on it.

The nakedness of each patient was covered by a blanket-gown only; the blanket-gown is a blanket formed something like a dressing-gown, with nothing to fasten it with in front: this constitutes the whole covering: the feet even were naked. One female in this side room, thus chained, was an object remarkably striking: she mentioned her maiden and married names, and stated that she had been a teacher of languages; the keepers described her as a very accomplished lady, mistress of many languages, and corroborated her account of herself.

The Committee can hardly imagine a human being in a more degraded and

ON THIS DAY

August 25, 1815

The Times gave long extracts from this parliamentary report for four consecutive days. The report spurred improvements, including plans for building a new Bethlem "heated by steam".

brutalizing situation than that in which I found this female, who held a coherent conversation with us, and was of course fully sensible of the mental and bodily condition of those wretched beings, who, equally without clothing, were closely chained to the same wall with herself.

Unaware of the necessities of nature, some of them, though they contained life, appeared totally inanimate and unconscious of existence. The few minutes which we passed with this lady did not permit us to form a judgment of the

degree of restraint to which she ought to be subject, but I unhesitatingly affirm, that her confinement with patients in whom she was compelled to witness the most disgusting idiocy, and the most terrifying distraction of the human intellect, was injudicious and improper.

She intreated to be allowed pencil and paper, for the purpose of amusing herself with drawing, which were given to her by one of the gentlemen with me. Many of these unfortunate women were locked up in their cells, naked and chained on straw, with only one blanket for a covering. One who was in that state, by way of punishment, the keeper described as the most dissatisfied patient in the house: she talked coherently, complained of the want of tea and sugar, and lamented that her friends neither came to see her nor supplied her with little necessary comforts.

On leaving, we enquired if the visit had been inconvenient or unpleasant. The patients all joined in saying, No; but (which was sufficiently apparent) that the visit of a friend was always pleasant.

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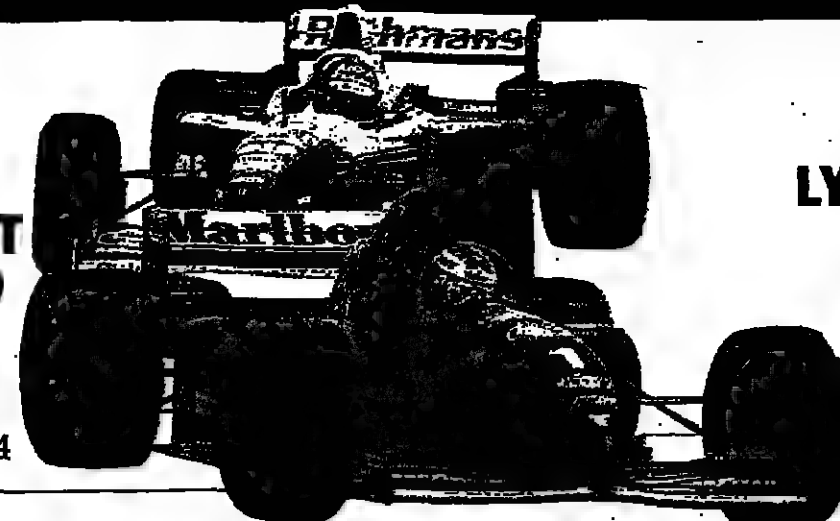
FLYING START

Newcastle announce their arrival with victory at Bath
PAGE 32

FAST FORWARD

Schumacher leaves rivals in his wake at Belgian Grand Prix
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UNDER THE SKIN OF SPORT

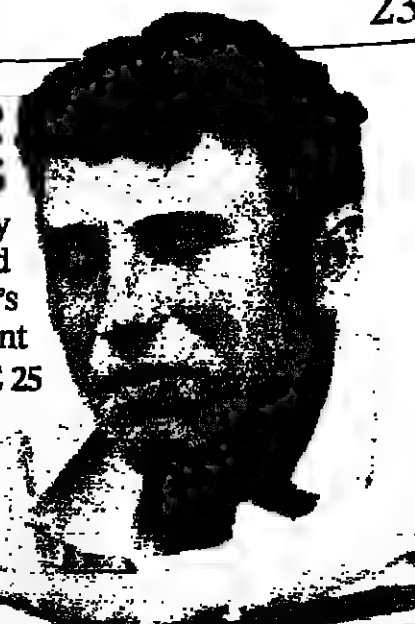


RAKING OVER THE ASHES

Why victory will not cloud Atherton's judgment
PAGE 25

PLUS LYNNE TRUSS

Soaks up the atmosphere at Wimbledon
PAGE 35



TIMES SPORT

MONDAY AUGUST 25 1997

BARNESLEY GIVEN RUDE AWAKENING BY CHELSEA

Vialli returns with four-star performance

BY OLIVER HOLT
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

FOR Chelsea, the frustration has only been pent up for a fortnight but for Gianluca Vialli, it has been building and building for more than a year. Yesterday, team and player exorcised their demons in one great rush and when they had finished, Barnsley's belief that they could mix it with the best of the FA Carling Premiership has to offer lay in tatters at their feet.

By the time the final whistle came, it was almost a relief. For most of the second half, Chelsea's mastery had been so crushing that watching them tear the Yorkshire side apart at will had become like staring at a cat, a big cat, pawing at a mouse that has become so petrified that it can hardly move. It was 6-0, but it could have been a lot more.

The win was a triumph for Ruud Gullit and all his players, of course, after the debacle of their opening-day defeat to Coventry City, a belated statement of intent that they, too, will be championship challengers. But more than anything, it was a personal victory for Vialli, the once-great (and striker, who has been brought so low in his time at Stamford Bridge.

Vialli, a surprise replacement for Mark Hughes, scored his first goal in the 44th minute, completed a ruthlessly efficient hat-trick 19 minutes later and added a fourth nine minutes before the end. "He was different class," Danny Wilson, the Barnsley manager, said afterwards. "He proved a point to his manager today."

Gullit, citing Vialli's decision to give up smoking as an indication of an improved attitude, was also full of praise for the striker he ignored for much of last season. "He made me very happy and he made the fans happy," Gullit said. "He is a different man this season, a better professional, and it shows. Now we are seeing the Vialli we all want to see."

Gullit said that his players had gained more pleasure from the fact they had not conceded any goals than from the six they scored and, apart from a shaky opening 20 minutes, they operated on a different level to Barnsley. Vialli was the focal point but Barnsley could not cope with the runs and passes of Poyet either, or the invention of Petrescu. When Flo was brought on for Zola, he showed just what formidable

BARNESLEY	
0	
CHELSEA	
6	
Petrescu (26) Poyet (28)	
Vialli (44, 57, 65, 82)	
Attendance: 18,170	

strength in depth Chelsea now possess, particularly in attack. "They have brought us down to earth a bit," Wilson said. "But we have not been mugged by a bad team. We have been beaten by a very, very, good side." Barnsley had started well enough to suggest that they might be able to fuel the excitement of supporters who had flocked to the ground to

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Lynne Truss	35

see the first glamour side to visit Oakwell in the Premiership. They made Chelsea look flimsy and vulnerable in the first 20 minutes and Redfern spurned an early half-chance when he shot over the bar from ten yards.

After nine minutes, Redfern lashed a fierce left-foot shot into the pit of De Goe's stomach and, five minutes later, Barnard wriggled past the challenge of Wise and through the tackle of Myers only to mis-hit his shot as De

Goe rushed out to meet him. Then, in the 25th minute and against the run of play, the floodgates opened. Wise floated a speculative ball into the box and, when it was headed out weakly by De Zeeuw, Petrescu pounced on it, turned inside his marker and steered it into the Barnsley net off the foot of the post.

Barnard offered a hint of resistance with a 20-yard pile-driver that De Goe fisted over the bar but then Barnsley crumbled. Seven minutes before half-time, Sinclair's cross found Poyet in yards of space deep in the Barnsley box and, even though Watson managed to push his header away, the Uruguay international stabbed in the rebound.

Six minutes later, Chelsea cut through the Barnsley defence again with dismissive ease. De Goe caught a corner and hurled the ball to Petrescu on the left. He curled a 35-yard pass into the path of Vialli and the Italian dispatched it with a fierce right-foot drive beyond the dive of Watson. It took just nine seconds from the time the ball left the goalkeeper's hands until it hit the back of the net.

Twelve minutes after half-time, Vialli scored his second when Poyet flicked a delicate chip to him. He slid in to try to poke the ball past Watson and, when it flew into the air, Vialli reacted the quicker and nodded it in off the underside of the bar. By the time he had completed his hat-trick, six minutes later, with a neat side-foot over Watson from Wise's pass, a grim air of resignation had enveloped the home players.

By now, Chelsea's players were quite literally queuing up to score and a feeling of embarrassment for Barnsley's plight spread around the ground. When their supporters started to sing "we're going to win 6-5", the Chelsea fans, a group not renowned for their mercy, applauded them sympathetically.

Nine minutes before the end, Vialli lashed in a half-cleared corner to become the first Chelsea player since Kerry Dixon eight years ago to score four goals in a League game. That was against Barnsley, too. It must be something in the air.

BARNESLEY (4-4-2) D. Wilson — N. Eaden, A. Morris, A. de Zeeuw, D. Barnard — D. Sherrin (capt), G. Hirston, A. Smith, N. Redfern, E. Threlk, M. Gullit — J. Hendrie (sub), A. Liddell, S. H. F. Watson (sub), C. Marcano, A. J.

CHELSEA (4-4-2) E. de Goe — F. Sinclair, S. Carter, A. Myers, G. Le Sueur — D. Petrescu (capt), D. G. Grimes, T. D. Wise, R. C. Martinez, G. Poyet (capt), M. Nicholas, B. — G. Vialli, G. Zola (sub), T. A. P. 50.

Referee: G. P. H.



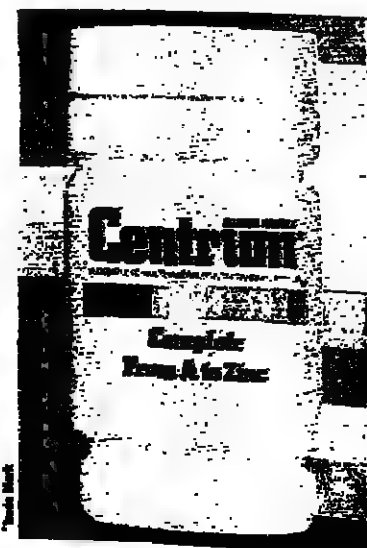
Gullit full of praise



Vialli reacts more quickly than Watson, after the ball had hit the bar, to head his second goal. Photograph: Marc Aspland

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هكذا من الأصل

MOTOR RACING

Schumacher supreme as gamble pays off

FROM MICHAEL CALVIN IN SPA-FRANCORCHAMPS

THE rain stopped and steam began to rise from the scarier sidepods of Michael Schumacher's Ferrari. As he looked out through the tinted visor of his crash helmet yesterday, he studied the panic-stricken faces around him and indulged in a slow, private smile. Two minutes remained until the start, but he sensed he was destined to win the Belgian Grand Prix for the fourth time in six years.

Victory in the meteorological minefield of the Ardennes forest encapsulated the qualities that make Schumacher the outstanding driver of his generation. It married intelligence with bravery, matched instinct with experience. It was the complete drive, by the complete driver. Twelve points ahead of Jacques Villeneuve with five races to go, his third world title is an increasingly realistic prospect.

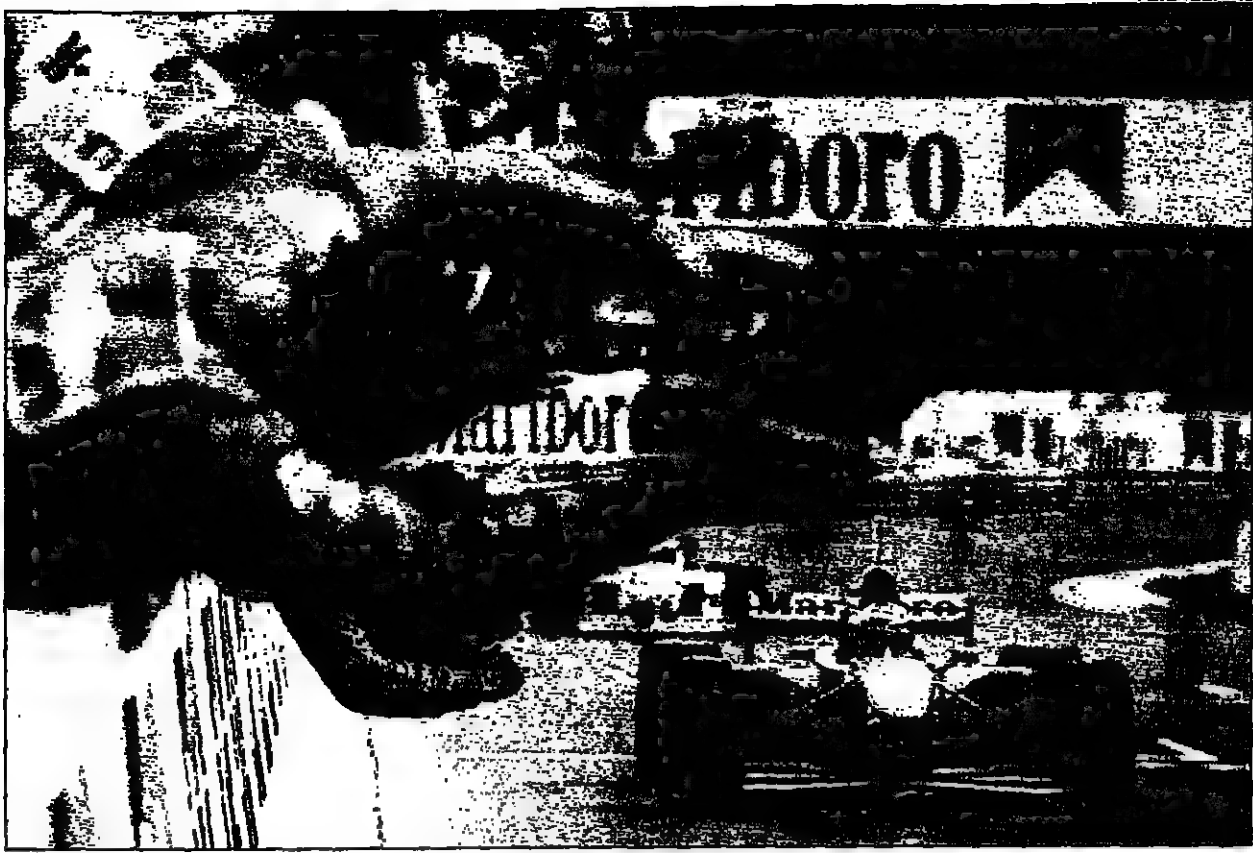
Villeneuve struggled in sixth, behind Johnny Herbert and Heinz-Harald Frentzen, who was beaten onto the podium by Mika Hakkinen. Both Williams drivers made the wrong choice of tyres in the frenzied instant judgments triggered by the cloudburst that flooded the circuit 20 minutes before the start. They chose deeply-grooved wet tyres and were beaten as early as the fifth lap, when Schumacher overtook Jean Alesi and Villeneuve to take a lead he never relinquished.

Schumacher had gambled, correctly, on the compromise of intermediate tyres, which were better suited to the drying track. "When I was sitting on the grid I saw the sun coming out and smiled my first smile," he said. "The circumstances were right for me. Everything fitted together and I knew I was going to win." His voice was quiet. There was no bombast, just a chilling certainty of purpose.

His presence was justified, because he eventually finished 26.7sec ahead of Giancarlo Fisichella, whose best result in a Jordan-Peugeot signalled that he, too, could be the best driver of his generation. His maturity and flair under pressure completed a dispiriting afternoon for Damon Hill, who was classified fourteenth after finishing the race in the pits with a loose wheel nut.

Hill blamed himself for his tyre choice. "Our race strategy was a disaster," he said. "It is in races like this that you think about what it's like at the front." He drove in isolation, apart from a protracted spell attempting to overtake Ukyo Katayama's Minardi-Hart. "It was as if I was in the lead," he said, wistfully. "But I was at the back. I'm furious with myself because I've been here enough times to know better. Rain gives you an opportunity, I missed out on a chance I should have accepted."

The most significant perfor-



Ferrari mechanics cheer Schumacher over the finish line as he wins the Belgian Grand Prix yesterday

mance of Fisichella's nascent Formula One career was impeccably timed. Eddie Jordan, the team owner, is confident of winning his legal battle to retain him for next season, when Benetton have a claim on his services. Should that optimism be justified, speculation linking Hill with the Silverstone-based team has starkly limited relevance.

Schumacher, though, continues to provide a compelling diversion for the chattering classes, who devoted most of the weekend to their seasonal games of double bluff and triple cross. His fourth win of the season put into perspective the unsubstantiated rumours which, in the space of an hour on Saturday evening, had Hill, Gerhard Berger and Alexander Wurz supposedly confirmed as a Benetton driver next season.

He is, simply, the best. He comes cheap, even at £22 million a season. He bided his time while the cars circulated behind the safety car for the first three laps, peering

through the plumes of spray with the keenness of a hawk waiting for a mouse to break cover through a cornfield. When the race began in earnest, he struck with stunning speed.

The unpredictable Alesi, another victim of a chaotic strategy, was his most dangerous prey. He forced his way inside him at the La Source hairpin at the start of lap five and then passed Villeneuve

with almost desultory ease at Les Combes. It was a manoeuvre of authority that bordered on arrogance and few believed the Canadian when he insisted later that Schumacher's lead in the championship was "nothing".

This, his 26th victory in a career that began in a Jordan here in 1991, makes Schumacher the fifth most successful grand prix driver. Another win, in Ferrari's home grand prix at Monza on Sunday week, will equal the achievements of Jackie Stewart. Only the records of Nigel Mansell, Ayrton Senna and Alain Prost remain to be bettered.

Schumacher was born barely 90 kilometres from Spa, in Kerpen. The top step of the podium here is his second home. Another wistful smile crossed his face as he stood there yesterday afternoon, flashing a thumbs-up sign at the hordes of German supporters. "My mind was empty," he claimed. It certainly makes a change.

SPA-FRANCORCHAMPS DETAILS

RESULTS: 1. M Schumacher (Ger, Ferrari) 48.10; 2. J Villeneuve (Can, Williams) 48.37; 3. J Herbert (GB, Williams) 48.51; 4. H Frentzen (Ger, Williams) 49.05; 5. J Alesi (Fra, Benetton) 49.18; 6. J Badoer (Ita, Benetton) 49.32; 7. G Berger (Aust, Benetton) 49.45; 8. J Barrichello (Brz, Williams) 49.58; 9. J Trulli (Jpn, Minardi) 50.12; 10. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 50.25; 11. E Irvine (GB, Ford) 50.38; 12. M Salvo (Fin, Tyrrell) 50.51; 13. J Magnussen (Den, Stewart) 50.64; 14. D Hill (GB, Jordan) 50.77; 15. U Katayama (Jpn, Minardi) 50.90; 16. J Trulli (Jpn, Minardi) 51.03; 17. J Vandenbroucke (Bel, Minardi) 51.16; 18. R Schumacher (Ger, Jordan) 51.29; 19. J Coulthard (GB, McLaren) 51.42; 20. J Marzouk (Lib, Minardi) 51.55; 21. J Badoer (Ita, Benetton) 51.68; 22. J Villeneuve (Can, Williams) 51.81; 23. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 51.94; 24. J Barrichello (Brz, Williams) 52.07; 25. J Trulli (Jpn, Minardi) 52.20; 26. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 52.33; 27. J Villeneuve (Can, Williams) 52.46; 28. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 52.59; 29. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 52.72; 30. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 52.85; 31. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 52.98; 32. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 53.11; 33. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 53.24; 34. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 53.37; 35. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 53.50; 36. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 53.63; 37. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 53.76; 38. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 53.89; 39. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 54.02; 40. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 54.15; 41. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 54.28; 42. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 54.41; 43. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 54.54; 44. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 54.67; 45. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 54.80; 46. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 54.93; 47. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 55.06; 48. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 55.19; 49. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 55.32; 50. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 55.45; 51. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 55.58; 52. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 55.71; 53. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 55.84; 54. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 55.97; 55. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 56.10; 56. 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J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 99.51; 356. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 99.64; 357. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 99.77; 358. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 99.90; 359. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 100.03; 360. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 100.16; 361. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 100.29; 362. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 100.42; 363. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 100.55; 364. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 100.68; 365. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 100.81; 366. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 100.94; 367. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 101.07; 368. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 101.20; 369. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 101.33; 370. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 101.46; 371. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 101.59; 372. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 101.72; 373. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 101.85; 374. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 101.98; 375. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 102.11; 376. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 102.24; 377. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 102.37; 378. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 102.50; 379. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 102.63; 380. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 102.76; 381. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 102.89; 382. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 103.02; 383. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 103.15; 384. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 103.28; 385. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 103.41; 386. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 103.54; 387. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 103.67; 388. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 103.80; 389. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 103.93; 390. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 104.06; 391. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 104.19; 392. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 104.32; 393. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 104.45; 394. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 104.58; 395. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 105.11; 396. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 105.24; 397. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 105.37; 398. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 105.50; 399. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 105.63; 400. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 105.76; 401. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 105.89; 402. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 106.02; 403. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 106.15; 404. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 106.28; 405. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 106.41; 406. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 106.54; 407. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 106.67; 408. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 106.80; 409. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 106.93; 410. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 107.06; 411. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 107.19; 412. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 107.32; 413. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 107.45; 414. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 107.58; 415. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 108.11; 416. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 108.24; 417. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 108.37; 418. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 108.50; 419. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 108.63; 420. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 108.76; 421. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 108.89; 422. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 109.02; 423. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 109.15; 424. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 109.28; 425. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 109.41; 426. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 109.54; 427. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 109.67; 428. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 109.80; 429. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 109.93; 430. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 110.06; 431. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 110.19; 432. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 110.32; 433. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 110.45; 434. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 110.58; 435. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 111.11; 436. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 111.24; 437. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 111.37; 438. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 111.50; 439. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 111.63; 440. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 111.76; 441. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 111.89; 442. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 112.02; 443. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 112.15; 444. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 112.28; 445. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 112.41; 446. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 112.54; 447. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 112.67; 448. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 112.80; 449. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 112.93; 450. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 113.06; 451. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 113.19; 452. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 113.32; 453. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 113.45; 454. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 113.58; 455. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 114.11; 456. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 114.24; 457. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 114.37; 458. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 114.50; 459. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 114.63; 460. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 114.76; 461. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 114.89; 462. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 115.02; 463. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 115.15; 464. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 115.28; 465. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 115.41; 466. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 115.54; 467. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 115.67; 468. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 115.80; 469. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 115.93; 470. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 116.06; 471. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 116.19; 472. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 116.32; 473. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 116.45; 474. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 116.58; 475. J Agazzi (Ita, Minardi) 117.

CRICKET

Leaders make light of conditions

By BARNEY SPENDER

WORCESTER (Worcestershire won toss): Warwickshire (Apsis) beat Worcestershire by eight runs (D/L method)

ANOTHER thoroughly professional performance saw Warwickshire move towards the Axa Life League title as they emerged from the damp and gloom of New Road with victory over their closest rivals in a match reduced to 25 overs a side and finally settled under the Duckworth/Lewis system.

Warwickshire overcame a jittery start that saw them lose Neil Smith and Dougie Brown in the first five overs to muster a competitive total of 151 for eight yesterday. Then, with lights shining brightly, they took advantage of the conditions to curtail the Worcestershire response.

Grainne Welch took the wickets of Weston and Hick before Gladstone Small removed Moody and Haynes in his first over. From 27 for four there was no return, despite Leatherdale's valiant efforts.

With two matches to go, against Essex and Gloucestershire, Warwickshire hold a slender lead, although Kent, who are two points behind,

have a game in hand. Warwickshire's game at Chelmsford next week, a rehearsal for the NatWest Trophy final on September 6, will be of huge significance.

The Warwickshire innings centred on a fine innings from Hemp, although Penney and Giles weighed in effectively in the closing overs. Hemp, looking more authoritative with each innings, began by easing the ball through the covers and he went on to make 45 from 48 balls as he and Knight added 56 for the third wicket. Twice Hemp cleared the ropes, pulling Lampitt, who conceded just 16 runs in his five overs, over mid-wicket and clipping Mirza a little wider with a perfect pick-up off his legs.

Moody and Weston got the Worcester reply off to a sensible start before four wickets fell for ten runs in the space of three overs. With rain threatening, Leatherdale tried in vain to get Worcestershire to the total required under the Duckworth/Lewis system, but when it finally came down hard enough for the umpires to take the players off, they were still eight runs adrift.



Hemp, who scored a rapid 45, hits Mirza to the boundary at New Road yesterday

Ward provides Kent's impetus

TAUNTON (Kent won toss): Kent (Apsis) beat Somerset by four wickets (D/L Method)

NEEDING five runs to win off the last over of a match much affected by the weather and the vagaries of the Duckworth-Lewis method, Kent triumphed with four balls to spare (two Tennant writes).

Kent had restricted Somerset to 89 for seven off 18 overs, mostly through tight, competent medium pace and some sharp catching. After an abysmal start, in which they lost their first four wickets for 11 runs, Kent reached their revised target largely through

the batting of Ward, whose 34 included a six over long-on off Mushtaq Ahmed, and Fleming, who does not know any other way to play.

In several respects this was an unsatisfactory, wholly contrived match. Nothing was possible until 4pm, when the umpires decreed that a 25-overs-a-side contest would be feasible. Two interruptions followed, which lopped a further 14 overs off the total for the afternoon.

In addition to this, the computer which was supposed to supply the information concerning the Duckworth-Lewis method of scoring for rain-affected one-

day matches failed to co-operate with the scorers. Hence Kent began their innings not knowing what their revised target was to be.

Further computations were required when Kent, 16 for four after six overs, came out again to have another stab at forcing victory.

Fleming, who was at the crease at the time, queried the revised target, 62 off seven overs. Added to this, Caddick and Rose, who had had three overs apiece, were unable to bowl again. All this amounted to a prostitution of the game. Kent, though, will not be too concerned about that for the time being.

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Axa Life League

Gloucestershire v Lancashire

BRISTOL (Gloucestershire won toss): No result. Gloucestershire (2nd) Lancashire (2)

Lancashire: 1-1, 2-1, 3-1, 4-1, 5-1, 6-1, 7-1, 8-1, 9-1, 10-1, 11-1, 12-1, 13-1, 14-1, 15-1, 16-1, 17-1, 18-1, 19-1, 20-1, 21-1, 22-1, 23-1, 24-1, 25-1, 26-1, 27-1, 28-1, 29-1, 30-1, 31-1, 32-1, 33-1, 34-1, 35-1, 36-1, 37-1, 38-1, 39-1, 40-1, 41-1, 42-1, 43-1, 44-1, 45-1, 46-1, 47-1, 48-1, 49-1, 50-1, 51-1, 52-1, 53-1, 54-1, 55-1, 56-1, 57-1, 58-1, 59-1, 60-1, 61-1, 62-1, 63-1, 64-1, 65-1, 66-1, 67-1, 68-1, 69-1, 70-1, 71-1, 72-1, 73-1, 74-1, 75-1, 76-1, 77-1, 78-1, 79-1, 80-1, 81-1, 82-1, 83-1, 84-1, 85-1, 86-1, 87-1, 88-1, 89-1, 90-1, 91-1, 92-1, 93-1, 94-1, 95-1, 96-1, 97-1, 98-1, 99-1, 100-1, 101-1, 102-1, 103-1, 104-1, 105-1, 106-1, 107-1, 108-1, 109-1, 110-1, 111-1, 112-1, 113-1, 114-1, 115-1, 116-1, 117-1, 118-1, 119-1, 120-1, 121-1, 122-1, 123-1, 124-1, 125-1, 126-1, 127-1, 128-1, 129-1, 130-1, 131-1, 132-1, 133-1, 134-1, 135-1, 136-1, 137-1, 138-1, 139-1, 140-1, 141-1, 142-1, 143-1, 144-1, 145-1, 146-1, 147-1, 148-1, 149-1, 150-1, 151-1, 152-1, 153-1, 154-1, 155-1, 156-1, 157-1, 158-1, 159-1, 160-1, 161-1, 162-1, 163-1, 164-1, 165-1, 166-1, 167-1, 168-1, 169-1, 170-1, 171-1, 172-1, 173-1, 174-1, 175-1, 176-1, 177-1, 178-1, 179-1, 180-1, 181-1, 182-1, 183-1, 184-1, 185-1, 186-1, 187-1, 188-1, 189-1, 190-1, 191-1, 192-1, 193-1, 194-1, 195-1, 196-1, 197-1, 198-1, 199-1, 200-1, 201-1, 202-1, 203-1, 204-1, 205-1, 206-1, 207-1, 208-1, 209-1, 210-1, 211-1, 212-1, 213-1, 214-1, 215-1, 216-1, 217-1, 218-1, 219-1, 220-1, 221-1, 222-1, 223-1, 224-1, 225-1, 226-1, 227-1, 228-1, 229-1, 230-1, 231-1, 232-1, 233-1, 234-1, 235-1, 236-1, 237-1, 238-1, 239-1, 240-1, 241-1, 242-1, 243-1, 244-1, 245-1, 246-1, 247-1, 248-1, 249-1, 250-1, 251-1, 252-1, 253-1, 254-1, 255-1, 256-1, 257-1, 258-1, 259-1, 260-1, 261-1, 262-1, 263-1, 264-1, 265-1, 266-1, 267-1, 268-1, 269-1, 270-1, 271-1, 272-1, 273-1, 274-1, 275-1, 276-1, 277-1, 278-1, 279-1, 280-1, 281-1, 282-1, 283-1, 284-1, 285-1, 286-1, 287-1, 288-1, 289-1, 290-1, 291-1, 292-1, 293-1, 294-1, 295-1, 296-1, 297-1, 298-1, 299-1, 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443-1, 444-1, 445-1, 446-1, 447-1, 448-1, 449-1, 450-1, 451-1, 452-1, 453-1, 454-1, 455-1, 456-1, 457-1, 458-1, 459-1, 460-1, 461-1, 462-1, 463-1, 464-1, 465-1, 466-1, 467-1, 468-1, 469-1, 470-1, 471-1, 472-1, 473-1, 474-1, 475-1, 476-1, 477-1, 478-1, 479-1, 480-1, 481-1, 482-1, 483-1, 484-1, 485-1, 486-1, 487-1, 488-1, 489-1, 490-1, 491-1, 492-1, 493-1, 494-1, 495-1, 496-1, 497-1, 498-1, 499-1, 500-1, 501-1, 502-1, 503-1, 504-1, 505-1, 506-1, 507-1, 508-1, 509-1, 510-1, 511-1, 512-1, 513-1, 514-1, 515-1, 516-1, 517-1, 518-1, 519-1, 520-1, 521-1, 522-1, 523-1, 524-1, 525-1, 526-1, 527-1, 528-1, 529-1, 530-1, 531-1, 532-1, 533-1, 534-1, 535-1, 536-1, 537-1, 538-1, 539-1, 540-1, 541-1, 542-1, 543-1, 544-1, 545-1, 546-1, 547-1, 548-1, 549-1, 550-1, 551-1, 552-1, 553-1, 554-1, 555-1, 556-1, 557-1, 558-1, 559-1, 560-1, 561-1, 562-1, 563-1, 564-1, 565-1, 566-1, 567-1, 568-1, 569-1, 570-1, 571-1, 572-1, 573-1, 574-1, 575-1, 576-1, 577-1, 578-1, 579-1, 580-1, 581-1, 582-1, 583-1, 584-1, 585-1, 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Glamorgan profit from Kent shortfall

ALAN LEE



Championship Commentary

Their win, in the glorious setting of Abergavenny, was eventually straightforward. Northamptonshire were thoroughly outplayed and Waqar Younis ensured justice by bowling like the wind, taking six for 56 to leave his side most of the last day to score 196.

Marsh, the Kent captain and wicketkeeper, acclaims Ward's catch to dismiss Lathwell off the bowling of Ealham

[illegible]

MATCHES REMAINING: Glamorgan: Lancashire (a), Surrey (a), Essex (h). Somerset (a). Kent: Hampshire (a). Gloucestershire (h), Yorkshire (a), Surrey (r). Gloucestershire: Nottinghamshire (h), Kent (a), Warwickshire (a), Lancashire (h). Yorkshire: Lancashire (a), Worcestershire (h). Kent (h), Derbyshire (a). Worcestershire: Middlesex (h), Yorkshire (a), Derbyshire (a).

Lancashire set for autumn of discontent

Michael Henderson on the difficulties facing cricket's perennial underachievers

In all probability, Warne will go nowhere near Old Trafford and Akram will return, although the state of his body continues to give concern. Lancashire receive a specialist's report on his injury next week, but it will not be until he gets through the winter, when Pakistan play Test series against West Indies and South Africa as well as the usual raft of one-day internationals, that any clear assessment can be made.

It is conceivable that the job will go to Michael Atherton, who should announce his decision about the England job in the next week, but as Dav Whaitmore, the coach Lancashire poached from Sri Lanka, comes to the end of a difficult first year, he may reflect on the Chinese proverb: may you live in interesting times. Except that at Old Trafford, there never seems to be a dull moment.

Rain stifles England youngsters

BY JOHN STERN

NORTHAMPTON (final day of four): England Under-19 draw with Zimbabwe Under-19

PUDDLES appeared on the Wanrage Road outfield even before the scheduled start yesterday, leaving no prospect of any cricket on the final day of a match heading towards a draw since Friday evening.

Honours were even, England Under-19 having atoned for some truly awful bowling by batting vigorously on the third day to reach 563 for eight. It was the highest total by an England under-19 side, surpassing the 561 made against West Indies at Hove in 1992 when Matthew Dray-

1993 when Matthew Dowman, of Nottinghamshire, made 267.

The runs were made at a tremendous rate of almost five an over with centuries from Stephen Peters, the Essex opener, and Graeme Swann, of Northamptonshire, who did not field on the second day because of a head injury sustained by an errant throw during fielding practice.

Zimbabwe were offered only a brief chance of victory when England slipped from 198 without loss to 294 for five, but Swann and Jonathan Powell repaired the damage with a stand of 104 for the sixth

England Under-19 remain one up in the three-match NatWest series, the last game of which starts at Canterbury on Thursday.

On 11/22/2007

M	R	W	Avg	BB	5i	10m
5	339	27	12.55	7-21	9	1
9	469	28	16.75	5-17	4	2

8	1138	65	17.47	6-45	4	3
3	723	40	18.07	6-55	2	1
9	520	28	18.57	6-49	2	—
7	504	27	18.66	8-49	2	1


4	796	41	19.41	7-86	2	1
9	843	33	19.48	7-59	1	—
9	1298	65	19.86	8-88	3	1
9	1154	57	20.24	7-103	4	—

4	1012	49	20.65	8-38	2	—
6	829	40	20.72	5-68	1	—
6	1126	54	20.85	8-17	3	1
2	1072	51	21.01	8-32	3	1

5	848	30	21.53	5-57	2	1
5	1495	63	21.66	5-58	5	2
5	1178	52	22.61	5-53	1	1
5	1089	47	22.74	6-14	2	1
5	1085	35	22.74	6-14	2	1

532	23	23.13	5-34	1	1
584	25	29.36	7-50	4	1
1125	26	23.43	7-37	2	1

4	770	32	24 08	6-61	1	—
3	1071	43	24 90	5-45	3	—




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FOOTBALL

Everyone a winner at top-drawer encounter

MANY goalless draws either numb the senses, prompt extensive reading of the match programme or signal joyous hallelujahs for the invention of the pocket radio. Listening to the news from afar — of great deeds on foreign fields, of incident-packed spectacles — can often prove a welcome diversion until the referee's final whistle brings a merciful release from the purgatory.

Not so at Filbert Street on Saturday. Leicester City and Manchester United went into the game as co-leaders of the infant FA Carling Premiership and later emerged, battle-scarred but unbeaten, with their reputations intact. Along the way, they provided invigorating, fascinating fare, full of pleasure and pain, graft and craft, brawn and brain. Nobody, bar the most blinkered bigot, could have departed disappointed.

Leicester could have been 3-0 ahead within 15 minutes: United struck the woodwork three times. Heskey looked a world-beater, but faded; Beckham started his first game of the season, but flattered. Alex Ferguson had a wee moan and Martin O'Neill had a good laugh. The afternoon had everything except a goal... yet it hardly mattered.

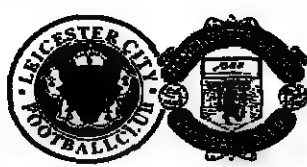
It was of a mostly home-grown nature, too. In a Bamboyan age of Gianfrancos and Georgios, 20 of the 25 players on display were born

Results and tables 30
Nap band 31
Lyane Truss 35

in the British Isles. Even Mustafa Izzet, Leicester's exotically named Turkish midfielder player, was brought up in the same East End "manor" as the notorious Krays. Blended with the considerable contributions of an American, a Dane, a Swede and a Norwegian — and also a Spaniard of Dutch descent, though he lasted only seven minutes — the mixture was complete. It was a potent concoction, individually and collectively, and played in a refreshing spirit of mutual respect.

Trust Ferguson, the United manager, to spoil it. Old Sourpuss, still seeking that elusive perfection, preferred to catalogue United's shortcomings. His defence was an "absolute mess" for the opening quarter of an hour and his forward line lacked penetration. And yet, with so much possession, he felt that they still should have won. "Schmeichel, Irwin, Keane and Giggs were magnificent," he said. "The rest were average." That he barely mentioned Leicester's role in an engrossing spectacle was not a deliberate snub: it was more his obsession for all things United overshadowing everything else.

At least O'Neill, the Leicester manager, introduced a lighter tone, faced with his customary Irish



LEICESTER CITY 0
MANCHESTER UNITED 0
By Russell Kempson

blarney. "Come on, lads, let's get this over quickly," he said to the assembled writers, as Australia hovered on 99 for eight in the sixth Test. "Have you seen what's happening in the cricket?"

He stayed long enough to concede that his side, exhausted by its efforts, was hanging on near the end. "A good distance from the end, actually," he said. "Still, seven points from three games against Aston Villa, Liverpool and United. Not bad, eh?" Then he was off, at pace, in time to watch Philip Tuiheta and Andrew Caddick mop up the Australian tail.

England versus Australia was a fair analogy — the underdogs, at home, versus the champions. As in proceedings at the Oval, the game was temporarily bridged during a sultry afternoon of suspense and intrigue.

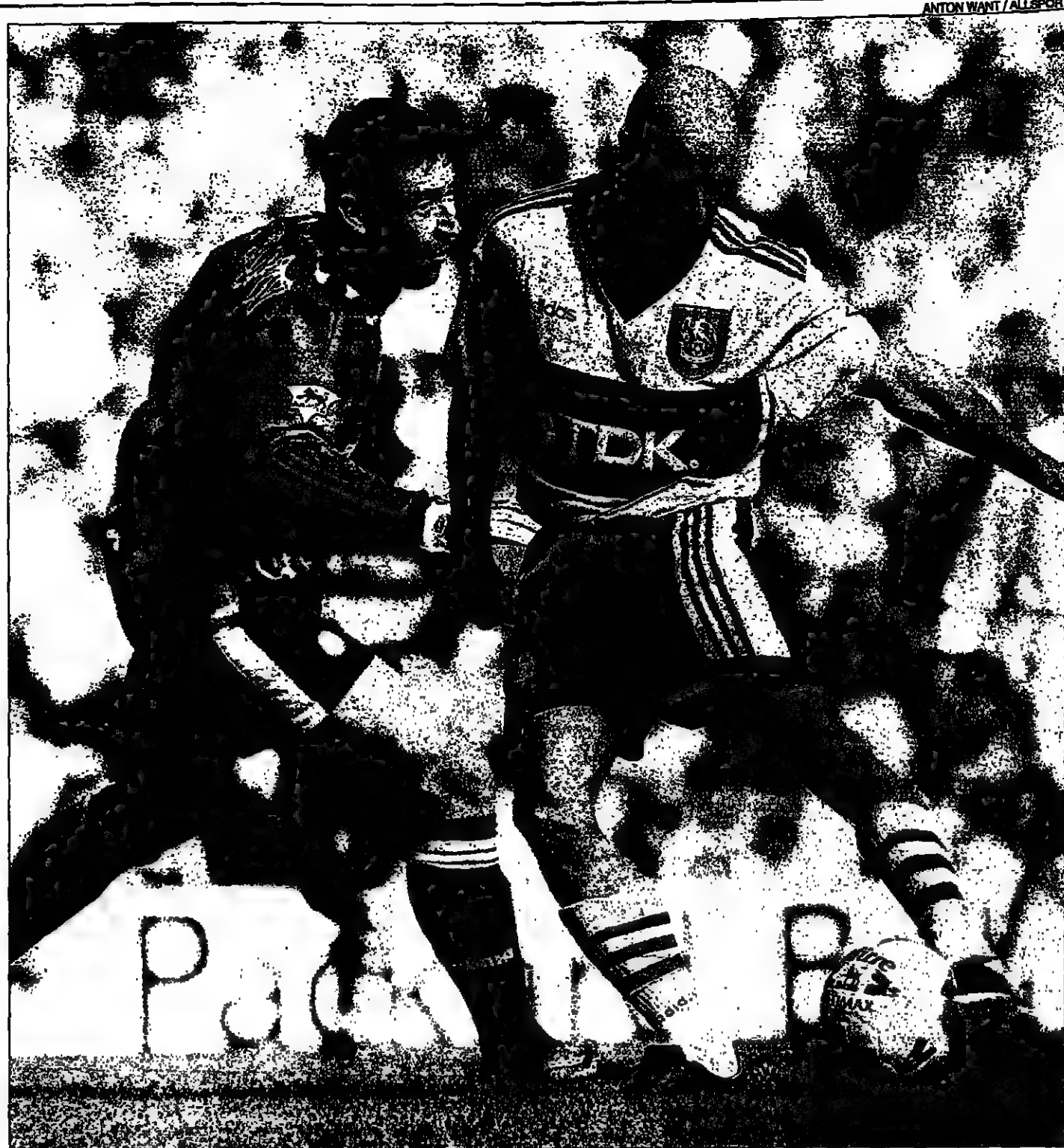
Leicester demonstrated their right to be included in the draw for the UEFA Cup on Friday, with Elliott towering at the back, Lennon bustling in midfield and Heskey hustling up front. O'Neill's side might have emulated England's surprise victory in the cricket had Heskey, a bull of a teenager, accepted any of his three early chances.

United waited patiently, absorbing and gradually draining Leicester's energy. It was the style of the Champions' League — slow, slow, quick, quick, slow — and should again serve them well in Europe this season. As the Premiership frenzy grows, they continue to hone their unhurried continental approach, clearly and concisely.

Keane lurked in the deep, sometimes too deep yet always available, and Giggs darted everywhere. Sheringham struck a post in the first half, from seemingly unmissable range, and Giggs and Scholes did likewise after the interval, though with less reason to blush. As Leicester toiled and spoiled, United pushed on.

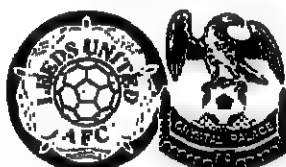
To no avail, perhaps, but the senses were stimulated, the match programmes left unread and the radios ignored. Though rare for a 0-0, no alternative forms of entertainment were needed.

LEICESTER CITY (4-3-2): K. Keller — P. Nnamani, S. P. Elliott, S. Walsh, S. Guppy — M. Izet, N. Lennon, S. Campbell (sub: R. Savage, S. Mimi) — I. Marshall (sub: S. O'Grady, S. E. Heskey).
MANCHESTER UNITED (4-4-2): P. Schmeichel — O. Neville, H. Bagg, G. Pallister, D. Irwin — J. Beckham, R. Keane, A. Cole, P. Foy (sub: P. Scholes, J. E. Sheringham).
Referee: D. Galloway.



Lombardo shows marvellous skill as he goes around Martyn, the Leeds goalkeeper, to score Crystal Palace's second goal.

Stylish Lombardo provides brain to undermine the brawn of Leeds



LEEDS UNITED 0
CRYSTAL PALACE 2
By Mark Hodgkinson

STYLE is everything in Italy. The cut of the cloth or design of the car is as important as the food on the table.

So far, the Italian imports into the FA Carling Premiership have been loyal to the ethos. Roberto Di Matteo is rarely photographed without his shades. Fabrizio Ravanelli has made premature greying the epitome of cool and Gianfranco Zola has done likewise for men of a certain stature.

Step forward Andriano Lombardo. "He's got no hair, but we don't care," sing the Crystal Palace fans. He also has an unusually long neck, eyes that are a touch too close together and the shuffling gait of a man who thinks he might have left his wallet back at the hotel. If his countrymen have the demeanour of Hollywood wannabes, Lombardo has the look of a shipping clerk from Weston-super-Mare.

Lombardo's beauty, of course, is in the communication between his brain and feet. In the furnace of tactics and exertion at Elland Road, there was just one cool, incisive brain at work. Like an architect among load carriers, he was forever seeing the detail.

picking up the linear pass among hopeful, pointless punts.

In the first half-hour he wore the look of sheer bewilderment. He had been told of the frenzy of English football, but this was Naples at rush hour, with all the traffic lights on the blink. "I think Lombardo found life difficult in the first half," Steve Coppell, the Crystal Palace manager, said afterwards. "Every time he turned round he bumped into four or five Leeds players. He adapted so well though."

He was able to adapt because, unlike almost everyone else on the pitch, he had the intelligence to

discern. The heat was stifling, the crowd restless; Lombardo understood that the ball needed to be chaperoned, played with a studied precision.

In contrast, his midfield adversaries, Bowyer and Hopkin particularly, scurried around manically and swiped at the ball arbitrarily when it happened to cross their paths.

Palace deservedly took the lead when Lombardo fed Gordon who bared down the left before sending a cross to the far post. Warhurst, one of the few players willing to emulate Lombardo's poise, headed it skilfully beyond Martyn.

Leeds were dreadful, especially in the first half. The promise of two fine opening league games — a 1-1 draw at home to Arsenal on the first day of the season and a 3-1 victory away to Sheffield Wednesday four days later — melted in the heat and there was a certain indignity in their response to a much better side.

Hasselbaink showed a penchant for transiency, picking several arguments with his colleagues and waiting theatrically after every poor pass. "We were back to

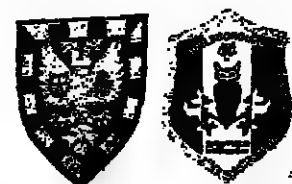
square one," George Graham, the Leeds United manager, said afterwards. "It was all long balls and high balls. We were beaten comprehensively."

The game was settled by a marvellous piece of skill from Lombardo. He received the ball from Warhurst, knocking it forward with his shoulder into his own path. Martyn advanced but the Italian raised the ball beyond him with his right foot before placing it with his left into the empty goal.

The final proof that this had been a day for intelligence above ignorance, brain above brawn, was in the sight of Molenaar, the Leeds defender, falling clumsily into his own net trying to retrieve the ball. Lombardo, meanwhile, was on a graceful dance of victory, his skill even drawing applause from the Leeds supporters.

LEEDS UNITED (4-4-2): N. Martyn — G. Halls (sub: L. Richardson, sub: A. Hinchey), D. Robertson — D. Kelly, J. Bowyer (sub: A. Henderson, sub: D. Hopkin, S. Riebel), R. Keane, J. P. Heffernan, R. Wallace.
CRYSTAL PALACE (3-5-2): K. Moseley — D. Tuttle, M. Schuster, A. Longstaff — R. Moseley, A. Lombardo (sub: J. Palmer, sub: A. Roberts, S. Rodgers, D. Gordon), P. Warhurst (sub: N. Shippard), J. Dyer (sub: D. Freeman, sub: R. Hodge).
Referee: L. Hoare.

Charitable strikers put Kinnear in cold sweat



WIMBLEDON 1
SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY 1
By Peter Robinson

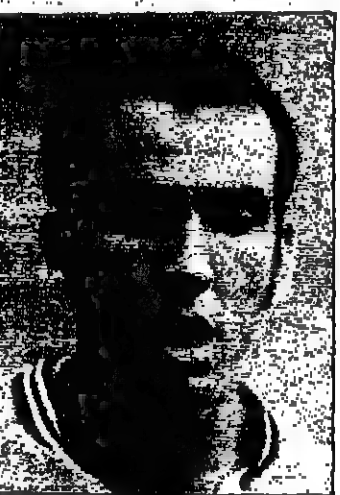
IT was one of the hottest days of the year and thousands spent the afternoon in the car, sitting in a long and orderly queue on just another busy, bloody Bank Holiday weekend. Stuck, they lined up across the New Forest on every plausible route into the West Country and, around the M25, they queued to the east and queued to the west.

For once, South Norwood was not such a bad place to be. With half the local population having decamped elsewhere, or lodged in traffic, this droplet of South London suburbia, lost in a sea of the stuff, was strangely peaceful. If you were picnicking in your car or fighting the hordes for a square meal on the beach at Bourne-mouth, well, you got it wrong. You should have been here.

There was room, heaven knows, there was room, with fewer than half the 26,309 seats filled, but then that generally has been the way with Wimbledon down the years despite their successes. It may be fiendishly difficult to get into some grounds, but it is just not true to say that the only way to see FA Carling Premiership football these days is with a fiercely guarded season ticket or a television.

It may be awkward getting into Selhurst Park when Manchester United are in town, but Sheffield Wednesday? Indeed, it is becoming depressing to think that, after all these years, people still steer clear of Wimbledon.

The old dirty Dons are long gone. Fash's flying elbows, the towering centre halves who used to clutter anything that moved, Beasant's mammoth punts downfield, all gone. Even dear old Vinnie Jones is but a shadow of his former self, the hood-carrying skinhead of legend replaced by a no-nonsense old pro. On Saturday, Wimbledon



Di Canio: deflection

were reasonable value for the admission money and if Wednesday left with relief at escaping with a point and all bodies intact, then they need not have done. For they certainly will have more traumatic ventures than this before the end of May 1998.

Wimbledon should have won this game and they knew it. As the spectators made their way home, Joe Kinnear, the manager, noted the missed chances that his strikers had spurned with almost charitable zeal.

Jason Euell accepted the rest — Cayle, Holdsworth and later, Ekoku and Clarke — finished with all the aplomb of their respective grammys and Kinnear, already hot and bothered by the sultry weather, said so.

Euell is excused because he scored the Wimbledon goal, which he did with some style after a spell of pressure ended with an Ardley cross and a firm header from the 19-year-old striker that gave Pressman, the Wednesday goalkeeper, no chance.

After that, though, Wimbledon slowly but steadily relaxed and when, spooked by an errant linesman, they abandoned their offside trap, Wednesday, with their Italian duo of Di Canio and Carbone revelling in the kind of sunshine they are used to at home, went in search of an equaliser.

With a quarter of an hour to go, it arrived. Booth's shot after a flurry round the penalty area deflected off Di Canio's heel — he was actually trying to jump out of the way — and beating the unlucky keeper, Sullivan.

Wimbledon woke up, sent on Ekoku and Clarke in an effort to pep up their attack and saw chance after chance go begging. Kinnear thus went home frustrated and fed up and so, too, did David Platt, his opposite number, although that may have had more to do with his mobile phone being pinched than events on the field.

WIMBLEDON (2-2-3): N. Sullivan — K. Carrington, C. Pressman, D. Beasant, A. Kinnear — N. Ardley, V. Jones, R. Eddowes (sub: C. Hughes, 30 min) — J. Euell (sub: A. Clarke, 75), D. Platt, R. Eddowes, M. Carr.
SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (4-4-2): K. Pressman — P. Beasant, J. Newman, D. Walker, J. Pressman — D. Canio, G. Hodge, M. Carr, M. Forde (sub: M. Collins, 85) — A. Booth, S. Carbone.
Referee: A. Wicks.

Beardsley times his arrival to perfection for Bolton



COVENTRY CITY 2
BOLTON WANDERERS 2
By Richard Hobson

THE cynic who defined modesty as the art of encouraging people to work out for themselves just how wonderful you are could not have met Peter Beardsley. Humility has always been a virtue rather than a front where Beardsley is concerned.

One would not know it from listening to him, but Beardsley changed the game at Highfield Road on Saturday. It is as simple as that. Waffle about tactics and the team ethic clouds a straightforward interpretation of events and, if this appears to detract from the performance of Nathan Blake, who scored both of the Bolton Wanderers goals, then the opportunities that Beardsley will create for him this season represent generous compensation.

Coventry were leading 2-0 when Beardsley replaced McGinlay in the 54th minute. Beardsley became the fulcrum for Bolton's attacks, whether floating into midfield or drifting wide to take possession. The pass might be long or short, forward or back, but always it created a chance on goal or space and time for somebody else.

"The only instruction was to go out and do my best, but I always try to do that anyway," Beardsley said. "It is unfair to the rest of the players to say I made a big difference because they got promotion last season without me and won at Southampton on the opening day of the season. It was an ideal time to come on because we were getting back into the game and there was no pressure on me. I could not lose either way, personally. Nobody would blame me if we lost, but everybody would say I turned it around if we recovered."



Beardsley: changed the game

Cox near the goal line and cut inside Bergson before reversing the angle to beat Branagan, possibly unsighted, at the near post. Dublin, unmarked, headed over from close range and Salako hit the post as Coventry surged forward time and again.

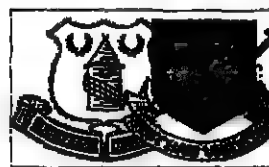
Perhaps those exertions took their toll after the interval. Certainly, Bolton bucked up their ideas. Had Bergson not run across his line of vision then Blake might have converted a cross by Thompson, though he misdirected a Sellers pass at the culmination of a move begun by Beardsley.

Blake's perseverance earned reward in the 71st minute. A well-angled pass by Beardsley caused such confusion that Shaw slid the ball away from the on-coming Ogriovic and Blake veered to his left to side-foot into the empty net. The defending was little better when Bolton equalised six minutes later. A corner on the right from Sellers was met with a series of blank looks before Blake, more alert, shot in from close range.

Blake has scored four times in three games this season, including one for Wales against Turkey, and he almost claimed a fifth in the final minute. Beardsley steered another ball into his stride, but Blake's shot hit Ogriovic on the face and went to safety. It is hard to imagine Beardsley adorning the bench again at Barnsley on Wednesday night.

COVENTRY CITY (4-2-2): D. Brown — P. Cox, P. H. Jones, D. Bergson — J. Sellers, A. Richardson — E. Thompson, M. Ashford, M. Smith, J. Thompson, M. Smith, J. Thompson, M. Smith.
BOLTON WANDERERS (4-4-2): A. Carrington — N. Carrington, J. Carrington, J. Carrington, J. Carrington — J. Carrington, J. Carrington, J. Carrington, J. Carrington.
Referee: V. Hoare.

Everything looking far from rosy in Kendall's garden



EVERTON 2
WEST HAM UNITED 1
By David Maddock

WHY was it that Goodison Park on a rainy Saturday prompted thoughts of gardening? Maybe it was the rose-thorn spite of Everton, or West Ham United's ephemeral sweet-pea gloom. More likely, perhaps, was the nagging thought throughout a tortuous afternoon that even the little green acre in the pouring rain was a better place to be than this semi-cultivated excuse for entertainment. There is grass to be cut, after all, and manure to be dug in.

I kept a count during this match of the number of times the ball was passed either directly to the opposition or into touch. Not passed, not cleared or tackled, but the deliberate act of attempting to find a teammate. How many would you think in a contest where the ball was in play for only 50 minutes?

The answer is 77. That's right: seventy-seven. I repeat it in words just to confirm that it is not a misprint. That is how bad it was. That is why I longed for the garden, and I hate gardening.

West Ham tried. They dominated the first half because they were able to string a few passes together, and in Kitson, Hartson, Berkovic and Ferdinand have players who can play a bit. But, after the break, they succumbed weakly to Everton's neanderthal tactics.

The game went like this. Both sides gave the ball away incessantly. West Ham found some coherence and scored after 23 minutes through a Hartson free kick, turned into his own goal by Watson.

After the break, Everton abandoned route one as too complicated and went for something a little more direct. West Ham, defending

far too deeply, could not cope and the home side won the game. The goals came in the 66th and 83rd minutes. Watson arguably getting the last touch on a Speed header from a corner, and then Stuart belying a display of spectacular incompetence by converting a chance crafted in the Goodison School of Science. Well, there was



Watson: deflection

certainly physics involved as the ball was launched into orbit and flicked on by a centre half pushed forward.

If we are to be just, then Howard Kendall II can hardly take the blame for this, two matches after inheriting the "Dogs of War" title. He has clearly failed to shackle them so far, but already the signs are not good. What is it about Everton managers? Joe Royle, his predecessor, constantly saw silk when it was clear to everyone else he was making a pig's ear of it. Similarly, Kendall on Saturday. He spoke in positive tones of a victory he passionately believed "was merit". A bizarre choice of words given that few came out of this game with any merit at all.

Kendall declined to blame Watson for the own goal that put West Ham ahead. "Neville Southall says he would have saved it, but if it looked like Watson shouldn't have been in that position right in front of the keeper, then that's wrong. It's something that has been practised. Apparently, last season he saved a couple of goals by defending there at free kicks."

The equaliser also caused controversy with Watson believing he had the final touch after Speed had headed goalwards. "Watson is claiming he got a touch, and Gary Speed reckons his header went straight in," Kendall said. "I suppose with Gary now captain, he will be claiming it."

EVERTON (4-4-2): N. Southall — E. Brown, S. Brown, S. Brown, S. Brown — J. Carrington, J. Carrington, J. Carrington, J. Carrington — J. Carrington, J. Carrington, J. Carrington, J. Carrington.
WEST HAM UNITED (4-4-2): A. Carrington — N. Carrington, J. Carrington, J. Carrington, J. Carrington — J. Carrington, J. Carrington, J. Carrington, J. Carrington.
Referee: P. Jones.

Bergkamp shows rare skill to put the record straight



Bergkamp's brilliance overshadowed Wright's pursuit

AMID the welter of statistics, the thousands of column inches and the weeks of hype surrounding Ian Wright and that record, it was all too easy to forget that alongside him at Arsenal is a forward who has bridged the gulf that separates the merely very good from the world-class.

When push came to shove at The Dell on Saturday — or, more accurately, when tackle came to kick and rivals came to blows — Wright got mad. Dennis Bergkamp just got even.

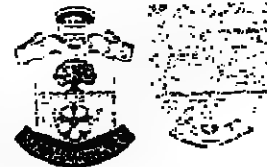
To say that Wright was an entirely peripheral figure would be to overstate the case, as he did play a vital role in the creation of the first two Arsenal goals, but it was soon apparent that a combination of external pressure and internal combustion would prove too potent a mix. Granted two opportunities to equal Cliff Bastin's club goalscoring record, he snatched wildly at the first and hesitated uncharacteristically at the second. He also got himself booked (no change there, then).

So, too, did Bergkamp; but

there the similarities end. For while Wright allowed himself to be dragged into the feeding that the Southampton defence in general, and Benali in particular, seemed intent on provoking, Bergkamp sought more meaningful retribution.

His two second-half goals were designed in heaven and delivered with venom, a cold and calculated exhibition that prompted Arsene Wenger, his manager, to draw comparisons with a master of temperament from another age and sport: Bjorn Borg.

Ahead early on through Overmars (Wright claiming an assist), pegged back by Madisson's scrambled header and seeking to re-establish the lead their greater fluency deserved, Arsenal were not having the best of luck. Vieira's header was blocked on the line by Oakley. Jones saved with aplomb from Bergkamp, had Southampton accepted that the fates were with them, they might even have secured their first FA Carling Premiership point of the season.



SOUTHAMPTON 1
ARSENAL 3

By Keith Pike

Instead, they raised the gamesmanship stakes and Bergkamp collected. The Dutchman was clearly not best pleased when Benali prompted an off-the-ball scuffle, even less so when Monkou went unpunished for trying to remove his shirt in the penalty area. So when, in the 58th minute, he received the ball some five yards inside the Southampton half and with space in which to operate, he set to work.

Turning quickly, he took the direct route. There were six defenders between him and goal,

but none had the pace to get to him. Wright made a telling run in front of him to maximise the opening and Bergkamp burst through before changing direction, left to right, and curling a low shot into the bottom corner. The ball was never out of his control; it, the crowd — and the Southampton defence — were mesmerised.

One might have thought that Benali and Co would have learnt. Wrong. Twenty minutes later they riled Bergkamp again, persuading David Elleray to caution him when the evidence appeared flimsy. Within seconds, Bergkamp had punished them again, arrogantly dismissing Benali's desperate lunge and shooting from 18 yards so cleanly, with such anger and relish, that Jones had not moved a muscle before it hit the roof of the net.

Southampton might yet have saved themselves. Davies and Evans wasting late chances, but Arsenal were as superior as their larger transfer budget suggested they should be, and in Bergkamp, Wenger agreed, they have a

special talent who could yet be rewarded with a title. "In Europe, people speak of Baggio, Del Piero and others, and Dennis is in the same class," Wenger said.

"Sometimes you cannot do things collectively and have to rely on individual brilliance. Dennis has it. He gets angry and frustrated (at being fouled) but does not show it. In terms of temperament, he is like Borg that way."

And Wright? Wenger did not make direct comparisons, but said of Wright's "obsession" with the record: "We tried to convince him, and he tried to convince himself. That the most important thing is how the team plays, but is that really possible? I don't think so." Wright may score more goals than Bergkamp, but even at 33 there is much he could learn from him.

SOUTHAMPTON (4-2-2): P. Jones — J. Dodd, K. Monkou, F. Benali, I. Todd — M. Oakley (sub Hughes, 60min), J. McCarthy, M. Haddock. **D. Elleray** (sub M. Evans, 74) — V. Davies, E. Cresswell (sub S. Johnson, 47). **ARSENAL** (4-4-2): D. Seaman — R. Bardsley, G. Granda (sub S. McCarthy, 75), S. Bould, M. Westwood — R. Partridge, E. Pugh (sub D. Pugh, 65), P. Jones, M. Overmars (sub L. Scott, 87) — I. Wright, D. Bergkamp. **Referee**: D. Elleray

Rovers reaping instant dividends from investment in enlightened management

Blackburn draw on new-found harmony



BLACKBURN ROVERS 1
LIVERPOOL 1
By Oliver Holt
Football Correspondent

THE rain had begun to fall in long, straight lines over Ewood Park early on Saturday afternoon and the woman taking the pound coins at the car-park entrance had just pulled a blue cagoule over her head when a smile began to spread over her face. She had spotted a driver with a deep, dark summer holiday tan a few cars away. "Another one been to Blackpool, then," she said.

Two hundred yards away, on the other side of the one-way system, the supporters eating their pre-match meals at the wooden tables outside McDonald's were oblivious to the weather, wrapped up in their conversations and their Chris Sutton team shirts, filled with anticipation about the match ahead. After a couple of seasons in the doldrums, local Lancashire pride is surging again.

In their new manager, Roy Hodgson, Blackburn Rovers have found what is for them the perfect combination of someone started with the sophistication and the glamour that comes from guiding a team in the upper echelons of Serie A, but who is also a natural communicator, an articulate, bouncy, media-friendly motivator, someone who is relishing life in the FA Carling Premiership. Three games have gone this season and already the door reign of Ray Harford is a bad memory.

Hodgson has made signings, of course, and one of them, Martin Dahlin, got up off the substitutes' bench on Saturday to score the goal that gave Blackburn a point against Liverpool and kept them at the top of the table, on goal difference, ahead of more fancied teams such as Arsenal and Manchester United.

But, more than anything, there is a new mood at Ewood Park. The two players whose unhappiness had been affecting dressing-room morale, Graeme Le Saux and Henning Berg, have been allowed to leave in exchange for a combined fee of £10 million and improved camaraderie. There is a new sense of cohesion and vitality about



Dahlin displays Blackburn's strength in depth by scoring the equaliser against Liverpool after coming off the substitutes' bench. Photograph: Jeff Mitchell

Blackburn that has been lacking since the days of Kenny Dalglish, a sense that they are marching with purpose again.

Against a Liverpool team who turned in their best performance of the season but have still gathered only two points from a possible nine, Blackburn enjoyed extended periods of domination, and when they fell behind against the run of play, Hodgson found that he had enough reserves of quality on the bench to unsettle the visitors and fight back.

Ince was outstanding again in the Liverpool midfield, making run after unrewarded run into Blackburn's box in the hope of latching on to passes that never came, but

Flitcroft, looking as good as he has done at any time since his move from Manchester City in the spring of 1996, was a match for him. On the right flank, Ripley embarrassed Harkness and Bjorneby; on the left, Wilcox forced Jones back into what rapidly became a Liverpool back five.

Blackburn forced eight corners in the first 22 minutes and their best chance from all of them came when James punched the ball weakly out to Wilcox. His shot deflected off Kvarme and looped towards the goal, where McManaman leapt into the air to head it off the line.

By then, though, Riedle had wasted the best opportunity of the

half for Liverpool when he shrugged aside Henchoz to meet Kvarme's long ball, but squeezed his left-foot shot just wide of Filan's left-hand post. Ten minutes before half-time, the German striker, nearly atoned for his error when he thundered a header against the Blackburn bar from Jones's cross.

Eight minutes into the second half, though, Liverpool took the lead. Just inside the Liverpool half, Wilcox foolishly attempted to play a square ball across his defence. Owen, still deputising for the injured Fowler, blocked it and chased after it as it flew into the air.

His pace took him beyond the chasing defenders and he side-footed his shot calmly through

Filan's legs for his second goal of the season.

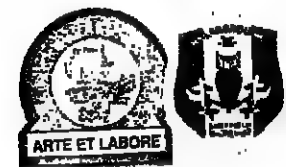
McManaman, who looked shorn of confidence in his first game back after the collapse of his move move to Barcelona, missed an excellent chance to put the game beyond reach when he played a fine one-two with Riedle in the 65th minute but hit a tame shot at Filan when he was clean through.

With time running out, Hodgson brought on Dahlin for Wilcox and Bohinen for McKinlay, and seven minutes from time, Blackburn got the equaliser they deserved. Bohinen played a one-two with Sutton, and when the ball squirted to Dahlin, the Swede placed it unerringly past James.

"Sometimes you can take advantage of another team's desire to equalise as a springboard for a bigger lead," Hodgson said, "but luckily Liverpool did not do that to us today. The most positive thing for us was that we went behind for the first time this season and I found out that we have the character and the determination to fight back from it. It might be early in the season, but it's nice to be in the position we're in."

BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): J. Filan — P. Vallerby, C. Hendry, S. Henchoz (sub I. Pearce), S. Morris, J. Morris — S. Ripley, G. Pearce (sub M. Overmars, 74), J. Wicks (sub M. Overmars, 74), J. Wicks (sub M. Overmars, 74). **LIVERPOOL** (3-5-2): D. James — R. T. Kvarme, M. Westwood, S. Harkness — R. Jones, S. McManaman, P. Ince, M. Thompson, S. L. Bjorneby — M. Owen, K. Riedle (sub P. Berger, 79). **Referee**: S. Lodge

Hodgson's charges get chance to pull clear



BLACKBURN ROVERS
SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY
Today, 8.0

BLACKBURN Rovers can go three points clear of the chasing Premiership pack if they beat last season's early pace-setters, Sheffield Wednesday, at Ewood Park tonight (Oliver Holt writes).

Roy Hodgson's team played with verve and invention against Liverpool on Saturday and looked to have the strength in depth and the talent to remain viable challengers long into the league marathon — even if they are, perhaps, not quite capable of wrenching the title away from the cabal of Manchester United, Arsenal, Newcastle United and Liverpool.

Hodgson is likely to start with the team that dominated the first half against the Merseysiders even though Martin Dahlin, his £1.6 million signing from AS Roma in the summer, pressed his claims with the opportunistic equaliser and Lars Bohinen impressed when he came on. Stephane Henchoz is expected to have recovered from the head wound that forced him to be substituted in the first half.

Wednesday, after losses to Newcastle United and Leeds United, secured their first point at Selhurst Park on Saturday, courtesy of some sloppy finishing by Wimbledon. Somehow, it seems as though a season of toil beckons for David Platt's team, although the unpredictable Paolo Di Canio may be their salvation.

It should be a fine, open game at Ewood Park, an advertisement for two of the best managerial brains in the sport, but unless Wednesday dredge up hitherto unused reserves of strength and skill, Blackburn's reign at the top of the league will last for a few days more at the least.

BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): J. Filan — P. Vallerby, C. Hendry, S. Henchoz, J. Morris — S. Ripley, G. Pearce, W. McKinlay, J. Wicks — R. Gash, C. Sutton. **SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY** (4-4-2): K. Pressman — P. Blomqvist, D. Walker, D. Sheehan, I. Noble — W. Collis, B. Carson, P. Alderton, P. G. Carr — A. Booth, R. Humphreys.

■ **TELEVISION**: Live on Sky Sports 1, 8.0

■ **PREDICTION**: Blackburn to win by one goal.

Newcastle revel in work ethic



NEWCASTLE UNITED 1
ASTON VILLA 0
By Nick Szczepanik

THIS hard-earned victory said as much about Kenny Dalglish's Newcastle United team as the 4-3 win in the equivalent fixture last season did about the Kevin Keegan version. Without Alan Shearer and Faustino Asprilla, they survived the sending-off of David Batty early in the second half, summoning up reserves of defiance and determination to deny Aston Villa their first point of the season.

"You don't get anything if you're not 100 per cent committed to each other," Dalglish said. "They showed out there that there's a great team spirit, great camaraderie and they really worked their socks off for each other."

Nobody worked harder than Ian Rush, making an unexpectedly early Newcastle debut after Colombian air-traffic controllers delayed the return of Asprilla from World Cup duty. The St James' Park crowd, which know a thing or two about centre forwards, was unanimously and noisily appreciative when Rush was withdrawn five minutes from the end. "We gave him time off for good behaviour," Dalglish quipped.

The ovation was deserved for an exemplary performance, especially when Newcastle went down to ten men. The Villa defenders were never allowed to settle, while every hurried Newcastle clearance was converted into a pinpoint pass as Rush, now the lone forward, strained to retain whatever came his way until reinforcements arrived.

But, since Rush could not find the net

with either a first-half shot or a second-half header, well held by Mark Bosnich. St James' Park looked once again to John Bercosford, that most unlikely of top scorers. Before this season, the wing back's only goals for Newcastle had been a penalty and a fluke, but, his appetite whetted by two tap-ins against Croatia Zagreb, he struck a powerful, swerving left-foot volley in the thirteenth minute that cannoned in off the crossbar.

Newcastle swarmed continually down the right, and Ketsbaia, Rush and Albert might have added to the lead before the 53rd-minute dismissal of Batty, previously booked after a spat with Stan Collymore, for a second yellow card after a late tackle on Steve Staunton.

Dalglish was unhappy with the sending-off and the performance of Gary Willard, the referee, in general. "The tackle deserved a booking, but the first

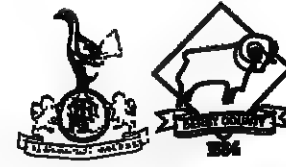
booking was a nonsense," Dalglish said. "The referee was poor, for everyone. It's a credit to the players that there was only one sending-off. Some of the decisions he made today I don't think many people will understand. We were playing well before the sending-off. Then heart, attitude and passion take over. We certainly had those in abundance."

They also had the speed of Alessandro Pistone in defence, which was needed as Villa pushed forward to try to press home their numerical advantage. Their only clear-cut chance came when Collymore, peripheral for most of the match, set up Dwight Yorke for a low shot that Shay Given turned aside to safeguard the last remaining 100 per cent record in the FA Carling Premiership.

Villa also have a perfect record — perfectly awful. "We have to draw something from that [match], although it's difficult when you've no goals, no wins and no points," Brian Little, their manager, said. "I'm not alarmed — I'm disappointed: it's anything other than we would have expected. I have to make sure we don't lose confidence or desire. Today we played better than we have, against a good side."

NEWCASTLE UNITED (4-1-1): S. Given — S. Watson, A. Pistone, P. Albert, S. Pearce — K. Gillespie, R. Lee, D. Batty, J. Bercosford — T. Ketsbaia (sub W. Barton, 56min) — I. Rush (sub J. D. Tomlinson, 85). **ASTON VILLA** (3-5-2): M. Bosnich — G. Charles, U. Ehorgho, C. Staunton, I. Scowell (sub F. Nelson, 70), S. Staunton (sub A. Wright, 70) — I. Taylor, M. Diaper, S. Grayson (sub J. Joachin, 70) — D. Yorke, S. Collymore. **Referee**: G. Willard

Dominguez lifts gloom at Spurs



TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR 1
DERBY COUNTY 0
By Brian Glanville

THE abiding charm of football is that its heroes come in all shapes and sizes. The new Tottenham Hotspur hero is a tiny Portuguese, once on Birmingham City's books and now a full international, who came on after 33 minutes, ran Derby County ragged and gained a free kick that brought Tottenham their goal and their first FA Carling Premiership victory of the season.

Jose Dominguez, who cost a mere £1.5 million from Sporting Lisbon, sent Tottenham's long-suffering supporters into raptures. There was one glorious moment when they were on their feet applauding his dexterity when, as his manager, Gerry Francis, said: "Like Johan Cruyff, with the inside of a foot, he looks as if he's going this way and then he goes that way." For most of the time, Derby had scant idea where he was going. He was elusive, fast and brave.

"He's picking the ball up and passing people," Francis said. "I've seen him kicked from pillar to post, but he picks himself up, dusts himself off and does it over again." Dominguez said: "Referees nowadays are more protecting. If there's a bad kick, they protect you more."

"Protective" refereeing gave Tottenham their goal in injury time at the end of the first half and should have brought them another at the same stage of the second, when Dominguez cut into the penalty box from the left to be brought down by the hitherto impeccable Simca. Howells banged the penalty over the crossbar.

The goal came when, again on the left, Dominguez was fouled by another Latin international, Eranio, of Italy. Sinton curled in the free kick and Calderwood thundered in to head the ball home.

Tottenham should have scored a few minutes earlier when Dominguez, after a scintillating run, crossed from the right, but Iversen, at the far post, could only shoot into the side-netting.

David Ginola, was the man who Dominguez so vibrantly replaced. Tottenham used Ginola not on the left wing, but just behind the strikers where, as Francis said, he "was not releasing it early enough". A falling that led to his departure when, heavily challenged by Carsley, he fell awkwardly and had to go off with an injury.

Dominguez admitted that he was tired by the end, having begun pre-season training late and played three reserve

games in a week, but the Derby defenders must have been wearier. "I just want to return to English football, because the atmosphere is good and I enjoy myself," he said. "I like to play for the team and if it entertains the fans, then better. That's what I missed in the last two seasons when I went to Sporting Lisbon." Dominguez said. "We have two or three big games a season. Here, it's every game." Meanwhile, he feels that he is a better player. "I was a teenager at Birmingham, very young, and sometimes I hang onto the ball a bit too much. If you don't improve, I think it's bad for the player," he said.

Jim Smith, the Derby manager, said wryly that he wished Ginola had stayed on. Initially, as he said, Derby enjoyed much more of the possession, but "in all fairness, we did lack the killer touch".

Ward should have scored on 29 minutes after a neat exchange with Eranio, but his shot was weak. Derby should look sharper when Strudger, a substitute on Saturday, is fully fit and when they can call on Asanovic in midfield and Baiano, of Italy, up front. At Tottenham, they had no one like Dominguez.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (3-5-2): J. Walker — J. Scott, C. Colquhoun, J. Edmondson — S. Carr, S. Charnock, D. Howells, D. Ginola (sub J. Dominguez, 30min), A. Sinton. **DERBY COUNTY** (3-5-2): M. Pugh — L. Pedersen, S. Harkness, J. Duffy — S. Eranio, R. van der Laan (sub M. Soley, 72), J. Hart (sub D. Wood, 72), L. Carsley — D. Burton (sub D. Strudger, 90), A. Ward. **Referee**: M. Bodenham

FOOTBALL

Albion are too sharp for ragged Wolves

West Bromwich Albion 1
Wolverhampton W. 0

By Russell Kempson

WHEN Mark McGhee, the Wolverhampton Wanderers manager, sifted through the wreckage of last season, he concluded that his side would have been promoted had not Keith Curle, his influential defender, missed five months of the campaign because of injury. Yesterday, in a typically frantic Black Country derby at The Hawthorns, McGhee was left to rue Curle's presence.

In mitigation, the former England centre back was not entirely at fault for the fifteenth-minute own goal that gave West Bromwich Albion territorial gloating rights until at least the end of January, when the best of enemies met again in the Nationwide League first division. Stowell.

A man was arrested at the third division match between Notts County and Lincoln City at Meadow Lane and charged with common assault on the referee, Phil Richards, after a two pitch incursion offences. The FA will study the referee's report before deciding whether it will take action.

The Wolves goalkeeper, must take some of the blame, too.

There appeared little danger when Curle, the new Wolves captain, intercepted a pass from Sneekes and nudged it back to Stowell. It had no pace, and should have been gathered safely, despite Peshosolido lurking near by. However, Stowell had left his six-yard area, slipped over and the ball trickled past him into the empty net. It was the first goal he had conceded this season.

"We lost because of one moment of misfortune," McGhee said. "It was ironic that, two minutes before, the Wolves fans were singing: 'There's only one Keith Curle'. A minute later, the Albion fans were singing the same thing, but he's a big enough man to come with that."

Wolves, also previously unbeaten, barely seemed to deny their neighbours a third successive League victory and second place in the table. Most of their efforts were thoughtless and ragged, with

McGhee desperately reverting to route one — the aerial ball for Paatelainen, the tall substitute — when the cause was all but lost in the closing stages.

Even Bull, Wolves' prolific marksman over the years, was afflicted by the general malaise. He should have equalised in the 33rd minute, when Smith's diligent work on the right flank ended with a fine cross landing plumb at his feet.

Instead, and unbecomingly, a player who has scored 292 goals for his club, he touched at the shot and blazed it high into the home supporters in the Birmingham Road End.

"Savo, Savo," they cheered, unkindly comparing Bull's skills with those of Savo Milosevic, Aston Villa's erratic Serbian striker.

Bull should have also done better midway through the second half, when he horned in on Miller, the West Bromwich goalkeeper. However, his control was poor and thought process too slow, allowing Raven to fly in to make a decisive covering tackle.

Soon after, Bull's increasingly fragile mood resulted in a booking for a foul on Mardon. Things are not going for Steve at the moment, McGhee said, "but he's single-minded and I'm sure he won't let it affect him."

"He's missed a lot more chances in his career than he's taken and that is part and parcel of being a striker. I hold a record that Steve will never match. When I played for Aberdeen, I went 28 games without scoring, but Alex Ferguson never left me out."

Ray Harford, the West Bromwich manager, rarely enthuses about anything, but at least it allows him to keep matters in perspective. Though Albion were worthy of the three points and displayed a greater desire throughout, it is unlikely that they will be among the serious contenders come midwinter.

"We're not strong enough to go up," Harford said. "We're a long way from being a promotion team." He was subsequently asked if that meant Wolves would finish above them. "I'm not going to say that, am I," he replied. And then it appeared — a smile.

WEST BROMWICH ALBION (4-4-2): A. Miller, P. Harford, P. Mardon, P. Raven, S. Milosevic — S. Pym, R. Sneekes, P. Bull, K. Curle — R. Smith, M. Tynes, P. Pashosolido (sub: L. Hughes, 62), A. Hunt. WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS (4-4-2): M. Stowell, J. Smith, K. Curle, S. Snodgrass, D. Raven, R. Smith (sub: R. Pashosolido, 68), M. Akin, D. Ferguson, S. Froggatt — B. Bull, D. Goodison. Referee: T. Haden.



Curle, whose own goal decided the match, gets to grips with Flynn, the West Bromwich Albion midfielder player

Hull bring Hateley back down to earth

Peterborough United 2
Hull City 0

By Ivo Tennant

IN HIS lofty playing days, Mark Hateley must have regarded going to grounds such as London Road and for that matter, Boothferry Park, as an irksome chore. As the new Hull City player-manager, he must visit such venues every week in the Nationwide League third division.

Hull have now played four matches, including one in the Coca-Cola Cup, and not even scored a goal. Every manager has to start somewhere and Hateley has begun with "the fallout from a nuclear explosion", strong language even for a footballer.

Terry Dolan, Hateley's predecessor, is seeking compensation over his dismissal. Barry Fry, the Peterborough manager, said the Hull players are not good enough. "Just because you are Mark, Bryan Robson or Chris Waddle, it does not mean you are going to get results," he said. "There was little chance of success for Hateley on this occasion. For one thing, he was injured. For another, Hull were left with only ten players before the end of the first half."

Dolan, their 30-year-old Spanish central defender, once played for Deportivo La Coruña. He found his way to

Hull because he wanted to study economics. The university gave him a place, and so did the football club, who were taken with his championship medals. When he was sent off on Saturday, they saw the less cerebral side of his nature.

Hull were already a goal down, scored by a former player of theirs, Carruthers, when Dolan hacked Quinn to the ground. Since the forward had a clear run at goal, a sending-off was the necessary punishment. "It was poor defending," Hateley admitted. "We need a break. I do get frustrated at the standard, obviously, but if the players do what I want them to do, then I am happy."

Peterborough, who scored a second goal through Quinn's smart header from Farrell's corner in the penultimate minute, will have much more numerous encounters than this. Fry has his customary direct self. "If we do not gain promotion this season, it will be a disgrace," he said. "We are never going to win the Coca-Cola Cup. As far as I am concerned, the sooner we are out of them the better." Which other manager would say that?

Furthermore, Adams has so far barely broken into the riches made available by Al Fayed, a quarter of whose initial £30 million investment

Adams pales in his chairman's shadow

Fulham 0
Luton Town 0

By Bill Edgar

MICKY ADAMS, the Fulham manager, could almost be forgiven for wishing Mohamed Al Fayed had never set eyes on Craven Cottage.

For, having transformed Fulham in just 18 months from a side lying second-bottom of the Nationwide League to one achieving promotion to the second division, Adams finds his remarkable feats almost forgotten amid the euphoria created by Al Fayed's purchase of the club in May.

Indeed, even if Adams turns this campaign's promising start — Fulham are unbeaten in four league and cup games — into a second successive promotion to crown his first two full seasons in management, one suspects that the success may be attributed largely to the benefaction of the Harrods boss.

Not that Al Fayed himself is seeking the limelight. The chairman missed the draw on Saturday with Luton Town, the pre-season promotion favourites, after claiming that his presence at games might distract attention from the players.

Furthermore, Adams has so far barely broken into the riches made available by Al Fayed, a quarter of whose initial £30 million investment

bought the freehold of Craven Cottage. Even his two biggest acquisitions, Moody and Arendse, the South Africa national goalkeeper, who each arrived for a reported outlay of £300,000, could not make the difference. Adams, who says he is "clocking up the miles" in his search for talent, is already benefiting from increased motivation among the players after Al Fayed's arrival.

Mark Walton, whose many fine saves in the Fulham goal seem likely to keep Arendse on the sidelines for at least another match, admitted: "Every player here is under pressure because of the money the club has got at its disposal."

Luton, beaten in the son's play-offs last season after finishing third, were indebted to several flying stops from their goalkeeper, Kelvin Davis, who, like Walton, was making a surprise appearance.

Rather than gamble on playing the injured Ian Fear, the Luton manager, Lennie Lawrence, recalled Davis, 20, from a loan spell with Haringey, a pool United after receiving special permission from the Football League.

FULHAM (4-2-3): M. Walton — H. Smith, D. Cuthbert, M. Moody, A. Arendse, P. Moody, R. Carruthers (sub: G. Goodison, 72), S. Haden, M. Tynes, P. Pashosolido (sub: R. Smith, 72). LUTON TOWN (4-2-3): K. Davis — J. James, M. Johnson, S. Davis, M. Thomas — J. Smith, S. Haden, M. Tynes, P. Pashosolido (sub: R. Smith, 72), S. Haden, M. Tynes, P. Pashosolido (sub: R. Smith, 72). Referee: M. Pearce.

GUIDE TO THE WEEK-AHEAD

TODAY

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

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GILBERT LEAGUE OF WALES

WILKINSON SWORD LEAGUE CUP: Second round: Llanelli v Cwmbran, Llanelli v Cwmbran

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RUGBY LEAGUE

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RUGBY UNION

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OTHER SPORT

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Clarke driving play

TENNIS

Rusedski begins US Open attempt on crest of a wave

THE "feel-good" factor sought by all tennis players in advance of a leading tournament should come easily to Greg Rusedski at the US Open, which gets under way today at Flushing Meadow, in New York. He has usurped Tim Henman as the British No 1 and he should figure in twentieth place when the revised world rankings are published this morning.

Both achievements are important to Rusedski, who plays David Wheaton, a dangerous wild-card entrant, in the opening round. Born in Montreal, Rusedski's decision to adopt British citizenship almost certainly undermined his game more than he is prepared to admit. He is a sensitive soul: the backlash from a minority in British tennis may have surprised him by its intensity. His form duly suffered when Henman leapfrogged him on the world ladder and he has quietly set about restoring his position.

More than that, however, Rusedski, 25, has worked hard to gain recognition within the world's top 20. "I believe the [revised] rankings will confirm that I have reached my goal, which is a great reward for all the effort I have put into my game," he said yesterday. "I had a good tournament in New Haven [earlier this month], when I beat Richard Krajicek and Albert Costa to reach the semi-finals. Sure, it was disappointing to lose in two de-breaks to Jeff Tarango in Boston [last Thursday], but that may be a blessing in disguise. It has given me two quiet days to prepare."

The latter reference takes Rusedski's mind back to Wimbledon, when he attributed a lacklustre quarter-final defeat by Cedric Pioline to his physical exhaustion. "Since I came to the United States I have played the ten matches I wanted before the US Open. My preparation has gone well



Tennis correspondent

but the match with Wheaton will be difficult. He beat Mark Philippoussis at New Haven and should have beaten Petr Korda, when he had five match points.

Another mind game, and one with unsettling undertones for Rusedski, is that he has never won a match at the US Open in three previous visits. His immediate goal is to rectify that lamentable statistic.

Testud falls to Davenport

LINDSAY DAVENPORT, of the United States, overpowered the unseeded Sandrine Testud, of France, 6-4, 6-1 to win the WTA Tour US hardcourt championships in Atlanta. Davenport, 21, the No 4 seed and playing on the court where she tasted Olympic success last year, needed just 59 minutes to claim the eleventh singles title of her career.

Testud, 25, only briefly threatened an upset, when she fought back from 3-1 down in the opening set to 3-3.

tic, after which he could face Goran Ivanisevic, the No 4 seed, in the third round. "Goran has not been playing as well as he can," Rusedski reflected, "but I'm not thinking beyond my first match."

Henman will be adopting much the same philosophy. His patchy form on the hard courts of the United States left him unprotected in the draw, after which he was matched with Thomas Muster, the No 5 seed, in the opening round. However, although Muster, whose year has been blighted by injury, has hinted at a return to his best form, both Rusedski and his coach, Brian Teacher, feel Henman will start the match as favourite.

Tim has a very good chance unless the weather is very hot and humid," Rusedski maintained. "Muster is best in those conditions. But Tim played very well to get to the quarter-finals in New Haven." Nevertheless, even if Henman obliges his compatriot's forecast, he will probably meet a reviving Wayne Ferreira in the second round. His passage is littered with daunting obstacles.

Henman, whose world ranking will slip from twentieth place this morning, has yet to match the form he showed before a wrist injury curtailed his progress in March. He has occasionally burst into life, as he did at Wimbledon, when he dismantled Krajicek, but his summer has been punctuated by defeats at the hands of lower-ranked players.

Intuitively, Henman decided to forsake tournament play last week, and a chance for ranking points, in favour of prolonged practice. This measured approach, favoured by the game's elite, suggests Henman means business, yet he advanced to the quarter-finals 12 months ago on the back of a prominent showing in Montreal the previous week. It will be interesting to



Henman, left, and Rusedski, who carry British hopes, face difficult opening matches at Flushing Meadow

see what dividend his strategy yields.

Fittingly, Flushing Meadow's new showcase, the 20,000-seater Arthur Ashe Court, may play host to Andre Agassi, the world No 1, stands just two grand-slam titles short of Roy Emerson's all-time record.

Although Sampras can be vulnerable in excessive heat, his grim determination was

displayed 12 months ago, when he vaulted on court while gaining a five-set victory over Alex Corretja. "I feel like I'm tough to beat over five sets," Sampras said last week. "I put so much emphasis on the majors that I'm ready to play when the first match comes round."

Equally hard to beat in the women's event will be Martina Hingis, the youngest top seed in US Open history. Hingis, 16, has sustained just two defeats in tournament play this year. While Monica Seles, seeded second, has put her Wimbledon disappointments behind her, the gap between her and Hingis surely remains too wide to bridge.



Spectators dislike new life as high flyers

FROM DAVID POWELL
IN NEW YORK

SO high in the sky are the back-row seats in the new Arthur Ashe stadium at Flushing Meadow, where the US Open begins today, that one half expects the ticket-office operator to answer incoming calls: "La Guardia Airport, how may I help you?" Spectators should be spared close-ups of aircraft flying in and out of La Guardia, courtesy of a controversial contract between the city and the United States Tennis Association (USTA), but they will not be near the tennis, either. While the Mayor of New York said that he would boycott the opening ceremony in protest over the contract, tennis fans have been outraged at the distance between the seating and the court.

Barring a late change of heart, Mayor Rudolph Giuliani is refusing to attend the opening of the \$254 million arena, which seats 22,500 and is the largest tennis stadium in the world — Wimbledon's Centre Court capacity is 13,700. Under an agreement struck by Giuliani's predecessor in 1993, the city is fined \$5,000 each time a plane flies over and disrupts a match.

The mayor's critics have accused him of putting a political grudge before celebrating the life of Ashe, the New Yorker and 1968 US Open champion, who dedicated himself to helping inner-city youths before his death. During the tournament, flight patterns are changed and no time has yet been levied against the city.

Meanwhile, the positioning of 99 expensive carpeted studio-apartment suites, with terraces overlooking the court, has angered ticket-holders who have been forced into seats 30ft higher than in the old stadium. "It is like the public got locked out," Jan Bernstein, who has attended every US Open since 1973, said. "You will be up in the nosebleed section and not see anybody up close."

DRAWS FOR THE US OPEN AT FLUSHING MEADOW

Men's (1) P. Sampras (US) v qualifier; (2) J. McEnroe (US) v J. McEnroe (US); (3) J. McEnroe (US) v J. McEnroe (US); (4) J. McEnroe (US) v J. McEnroe (US); (5) J. McEnroe (US) v J. McEnroe (US); (6) J. McEnroe (US) v J. McEnroe (US); (7) J. McEnroe (US) v J. McEnroe (US); (8) J. McEnroe (US) v J. McEnroe (US); (9) J. McEnroe (US) v J. McEnroe (US); (10) J. McEnroe (US) v J. McEnroe (US); (11) J. McEnroe (US) v J. McEnroe (US); (12) J. McEnroe (US) v J. McEnroe (US); (13) J. McEnroe (US) v J. McEnroe (US); (14) J. McEnroe (US) v J. McEnroe (US); (15) J. McEnroe (US) v J. McEnroe (US); (16) J. McEnroe (US) v J. McEnroe (US); (17) J. McEnroe (US) v J. McEnroe (US); (18) J. McEnroe (US) v J. McEnroe (US); (19) J. McEnroe (US) v J. McEnroe (US); (20) J. McEnroe (US) v J. McEnroe (US); (21) J. McEnroe (US) v J. McEnroe (US); (22) J. McEnroe (US) v J. McEnroe (US); (23) J. McEnroe (US) v J. McEnroe (US); (24) J. McEnroe (US) v J. McEnroe (US); (25) J. McEnroe (US) v J. McEnroe (US); (26) J. 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Pregnant pause greets birth of new season

Whatever incoherent opening Miles Harrison had planned, the words clearly deserted him, the referee, blew his whistle. "And so the new season gets under way," began Harrison brightly enough on Sky Sports 2, "with... Yes, Miles, with what? With... Rob Andrew's kick hung patiently in mid-air. With? With Newcastle kicking right to left. What an anticlimax. And somehow so indicative of an afternoon that in time honoured tradition promised so much but delivered so little. The rugby was scrappy and so, frankly, was the television coverage. After all, when the director's only hope of seeing whether a place-kick has gone

over the posts is to film from grass level on the 22-metre line you know you are in trouble. The normally reliable Harrison discovered he was in trouble early on. "A nervous start from the England full back," he noted after a Tim Stimpson penalty miss. But not nearly as nervous as the start made by the Sky camera-operator, who appeared to have lost sight of the ball the moment it left Stimpson's foot. It was a similar story at the other end, as Mike Catt attempted to reduce Newcastle's early lead. "He turns away, which is always a good sign," Harrison said confidently. There was another pause. "Some of the crowd thought it had gone over." Just like some



MATTHEW BOND
TV ACTION REPLAY

hang on, there was something else going on — the ref was still talking. We caught the word "card" and then was another long pause while Harrison and Barnes played catch-up commentary. Eventually they got there. "And Nathan Thomas has been sent from the field." That would certainly explain what he was doing halfway back to the grandstand. According to Jeremy

Guscott, who forged a well-balanced partnership with John Bentley as the studio guests, the rugby was exactly what you would expect at the start of the season — bags of enthusiasm, but little in the way of creative endeavour. It was not, however, what you would expect of the television coverage as Sky kicked off its most important rugby season so far. It has the thrilling Lions tour behind it. It has all the

Twickenham international ahead and, for the time being, after the BBC decided not to renew the contract for *Rugby Special*, it has English club rugby and the Heineken Cup to itself. Live rugby is all about Sky this season, at least for England supporters. As part of a modest repackaging Sky has brought in Mark Durdin-Smith to replace David Robin as anchorman and parted company with Jamie Salmon altogether. A summer tan ensured that Durdin-Smith looked more like Judith Chalmers, his mother, than ever. He made a reasonably competent debut but could probably do with slowing down the delivery a little and trying a little more

humour. Still, Des Lynam wasn't built in a day, was he? Quite who Barnes looks like with what, for me at least, was a new and fairly controversial haircut. I have yet to work out — but it certainly isn't George Clooney. As a pundit he divides people every bit as much as he did as a player and I would certainly like to see him using more of his tactical nous, alongside the melodramatic headlines and windy asides that make up so much of his contribution. Quite how he cuts it when it comes to the England international remains to be seen but anyone fearing sudden outbursts of seething resentment the gave Bath some hammer on Saturday and they used to pick him

can take comfort that the ultra-civilised, if not particularly English, Gavin Hastings will be alongside. Dewi Morris, the not particularly English sounding former scrum half, will serve as touchline reporter for the international and will take his turn in the commentary box on weekends when Sky have more than one live game. Finally, for those worried about the future of John Inverdale after the demise of *Rugby Special*, there is good news. Inverdale is to present BBC's new Monday night sports programme about which little is known apart from the fact that he will not be wearing a rugby shirt. Definitely a move in the right direction.

Di Canio and Carbone enliven forgettable Premiership afternoon during Selhurst Park revisited

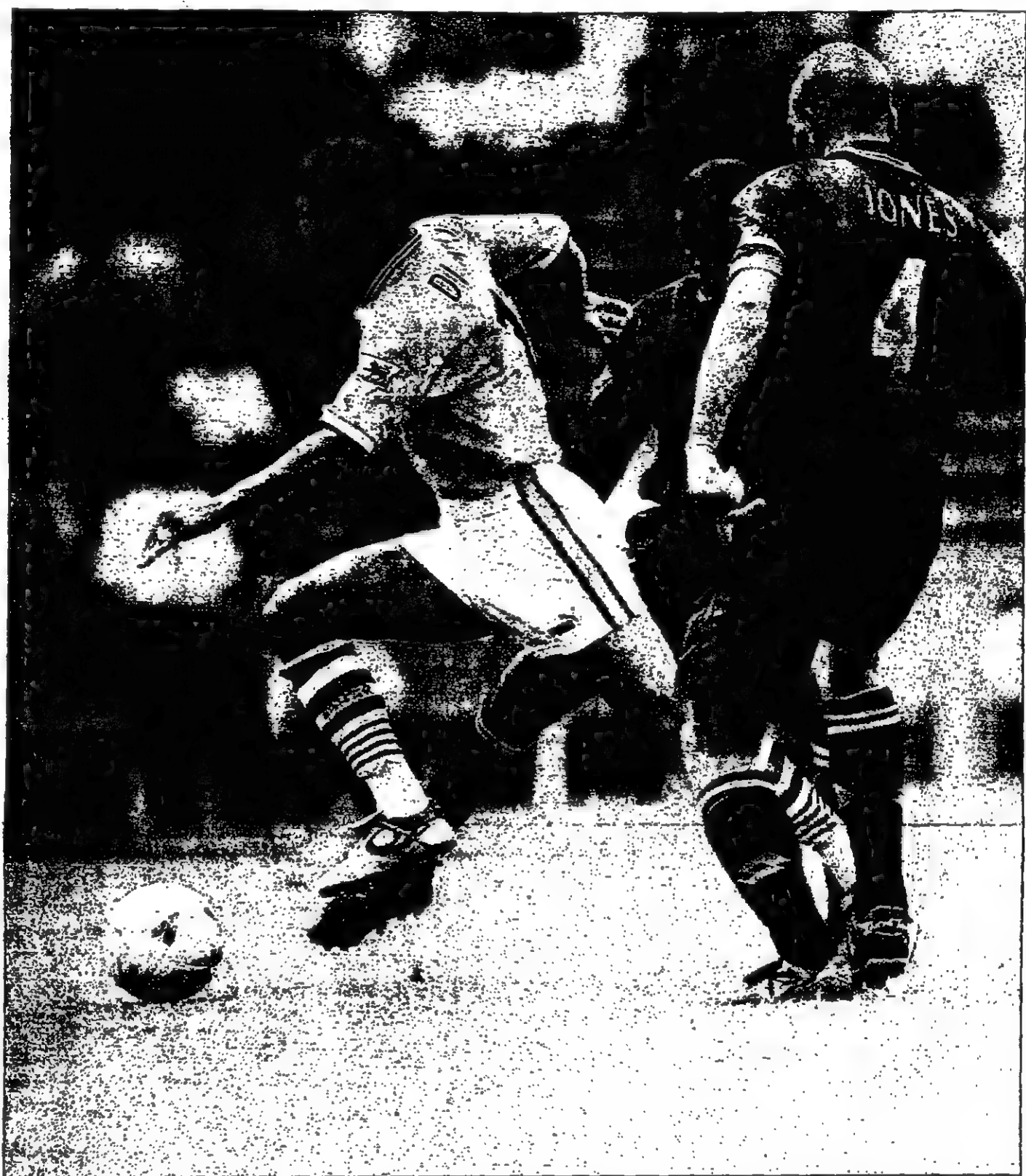
Bland fare rescued by spicy Italians

It was not so much a game of two halves as a game of certifiable schizophrenia on Saturday at Selhurst Park, where Wimbledon and Sheffield Wednesday finally emerged with a 1-1 draw. "What did he tell them at half-time?" That's what people always say, don't they? And it's boring, isn't it? But it was quite clear from Wednesday's co-er-cricky, change of gear that David Platt had done a lot more than mither "get a move on". In fact, the only acceptable explanation for such a radical change of pace was that he was holding all their families hostage and had chosen half-time to reveal his plan and hand round the Polaroids. And you couldn't blame him, really. Sheffield Wednesday's goal was a "let's see what happens" kind of thing. They played two, dragged one and tragically missed the other when all of Derby County's lights went out. Both teams, therefore, had every psychological reason to attack this game, but somehow this mental motivation never quite made it to the footies. Which was sad. So, what happened, exactly? Well, Wimbledon took control of the first half, with a goal from Ewell after 17 minutes, and then (no hum) they didn't quite know what to do next. Wednesday, spurred by terror for their loved ones ("Freedom!"), came out for the second half and surged goalwards, repeatedly, but managed only one messy ricochet goal, which was repelled twice by Wimbledon (in, out, in, out) before effortlessly deflecting off Di Canio's bum fin. And that was it, action-wise. Not much for 90 minutes. Luckily, the small crowd of 11,000 was packed with fanatics keen to exercise their lungs with celebration of the equaliser, with a rendition of The

LYNNE TRUSS



Days Busters. Nobody else, I fear, would have felt so strongly. No, it was one of those matches I'll remember more for the colour of the Wednesday shirts (luminous orange, gorgeous when the sun came out) than for any exhibition of footy prowess. "D. I. Can't-o" the Wednesday fans yelled to their white-booted transfer from Celtic — but I wondered, was it a mistake to single out Di Canio for such individual encouragement? Wasn't he having enough trouble already with the concept of teamwork? To be honest, I was worried by Di Canio, who dribbled too much (though only in the acceptable sense). "Me, me, me," you could almost hear him saying proudly to himself, as he advanced with the ball, and neglected to pass it backwards, sideways, or indeed anywhere. "Me, me, me, still me, more me, what a pretty me..." Admittedly, many foreign players seem to follow this autistic pattern. But not all of them have the snazzy



Di Canio's snazzy white boots take him between Jones and Earle as Sheffield Wednesday go on the attack. Photograph: Allsport

white boots, or wear their shorts six inches shorter than Premiership decorum dictates. Benito Carbone, on the other hand, what of Wednesday's other Italian star? Well, what a nippy, handy chap he has turned out to be. Twice on Saturday he beat Wimbledon defenders by flipping

the ball over their heads and then sort of scooped past them — a stylish manoeuvre that never fails to thrill the heart. "Isn't Carbone sweet?" I kept exclaiming to my Wednesday supporting friend, Robert. (Fortunately, Robert agrees with any positive comment about his team, however

ill-informed or gushing.) True, Carbone did miss some goal chances, but then so did every body. It was that kind of game. Joe Kinnear said afterwards that Wimbledon could have won it three times over, but he had to admit that they still didn't.

The trouble was, whatever tactical formation the teams started off with, they soon appeared to have been stirred with a big stick, and were for most of the match (like disorientated ants) just pathetically scrambling to rebuild their lives. In the context of such a méele, Wimbledon's long-ball policy

'Whenever Vinnie Jones took a hefty kick he would fall over backwards'

("There it goes!") is welcome relief, even if it doesn't come to anything. But at this stage in the season, you can understand a bit of faltering. New team-mates, new opponents, even new shirts and new boots with funny flaps on. Whenever Vinnie Jones took a hefty kick on Saturday, he entertainingly fell over backwards, and I'm sure his top-heavy boots were affecting his balance. Who knows how morale is depressed by having virtually no points? How does it feel to be Wimbledon when your former poor relations, Crystal Palace, have six points already, and are nudging the top of the table? How weird it will be, incidentally, when Wimbledon and Crystal Palace are obliged (twice) to play each other. "We're at home!" "No, we're at home!" Will season ticket-holders (both holding the same seat) experience some sort of spooky sci-fi anti-matter reaction when they meet? Or will they just have a muffled bang from the general direction of Croydon, if you hear a muffled bang from the general direction of Croydon, it will be the computer exploding at Selhurst Park.

As for the match on Saturday, why attend such a routine draw, you ask? Well, partly because I'm not psychic, and partly because I saw the same fixture last autumn and fancied the sensation of a revisit. The eventual match last year included that astonishing moment when Kevin Pressman, the Wednesday goalkeeper, idly kicked the ball to his other foot and was robbed of it by Efan Ekoku, who steamed off with it and scored. Goalkeepers have, of course, received new instructions recently about time-wasting — though the "five or six seconds" rule is troublingly vague. I mean, if they mean five, why not say five? Do they really mean six? Not surprisingly, therefore, goalies everywhere are counting. One, two, three, bimby, phew! But I was pleased to note the relieved, nervous laughter on Saturday whenever Pressman sent the ball straight out again, as if it burnt hands. "I know you're laughing," I wanted to say, proudly. "I was here too, you know."

Sports letters may be sent by fax to 0171-762 5211. They should include a daytime telephone number.

SPORTS LETTERS

e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

Darkness and confusion

From Mr Tony Porter
Sir, When the England and Wales Cricket Board decided to impose suspended two-match bans on Robert Croft and Mark Flint after their incident in the NatWest semi-final at Chelmsford (report, August 20) I hope they also considered the role of the umpires in the game. They were clearly at fault in not taking the players off the field — they could have done so twenty minutes earlier — and if they had done the right thing there would have been no incident.

Yours faithfully,
A.C. PORTER,
4 Long Close,
Fowlmere,
Royston,
Hertfordshire.

Olympic heat

From Mr R. Lowe
Sir, The choice of the hottest month of the year for the Olympics, the World Cup and the world championship is indefensible but unfortunately there is a short answer to Dave Morgan (Sports Letters, August 18) — we live in an age where television is everything, and the needs of competitors, officials and supporters count for nothing. Mr Morgan uses the word "foolhardy" but both the British and the Greek press offer a

RFU and its treatment of Jack Rowell

From Mr R. Lloyd Williams
Sir, The actions of Jack Rowell are entirely honourable. How could anyone carry on in such a high-profile position given the carry-on over the summer? The way that the Rugby Football Union have handled the situation is amateurish in the extreme. Fran Cotton talks of poor management by Jack Rowell but he is in no position to make such accusations. The RFU have touted the job around the world and now find themselves in a shambles entirely of their own making just two years before a World Cup. I do not think it should be Jack Rowell, with his good record, who should have resigned but senior management within the RFU.

I am, Sir, yours,
ROBERT LLOYD WILLIAMS
(Master 1/6 rugby),
Monkton Combe Jr School, Combe Down, Bath.

Cycling must take its chance

From Mr G. D. Warren
Sir, If you know a little about rugby union, and support a club and have a beer in the clubhouse after a game, you learn after a time that rugby teams consist of people full of opinions who will each dream up individual solutions to club problems. Sometimes, though, with everyone wanting their own ideas used, things can go drastically wrong through lack of communication or people not wishing to admit their failure. The photograph of Jack Rowell (August 21) suggests that he has been caught up in this kind of predicament. Someone should say "Thanks for what you have done, Jack, and we would like you still to be involved with the RFU," or words to that effect. But it seems Jack has told them to get on with it themselves. A shame.

Yours faithfully,
G. D. WARREN,
82 Chaucer Way, Hitchin, Hertfordshire.

The sad demise of the wet sponge in the modern age

From Mr A. D. Samuels
Sir, Is it not remarkable that the sportsmen of today no longer miraculously recover with the assistance of the legendary wet sponge? Doctors and competitors alike now extol the virtues of outside assistance to enhance their performance. Some examples: 1. Breathing strip — by pulling open the passages of the nose, it improves the air flow and is a particular favourite of football players. 2. Magnets — golfers and cricketers alike take these on their arm to boost blood flow and cut down on pain. 3. Elbow cream — tennis players particularly enjoy using this as an anti-inflammatory. 4. Copper bracelets — golfers and tennis players believe they can avoid arthritis by wearing these. 5. Knee straps — the Athens long-jump pit was full of these knee tendon straps which smooth and enhance the jump. 6. Electric shocks — these stimulators send helpful charges to the muscles and joints causing trouble to the sportsmen involved. Whatever happened to the good old-fashioned water soaking? Yours sincerely, TONY SAMUELS, Great Oak House, Daves Court, 93 High Street, Esher, Surrey.

Tomorrow

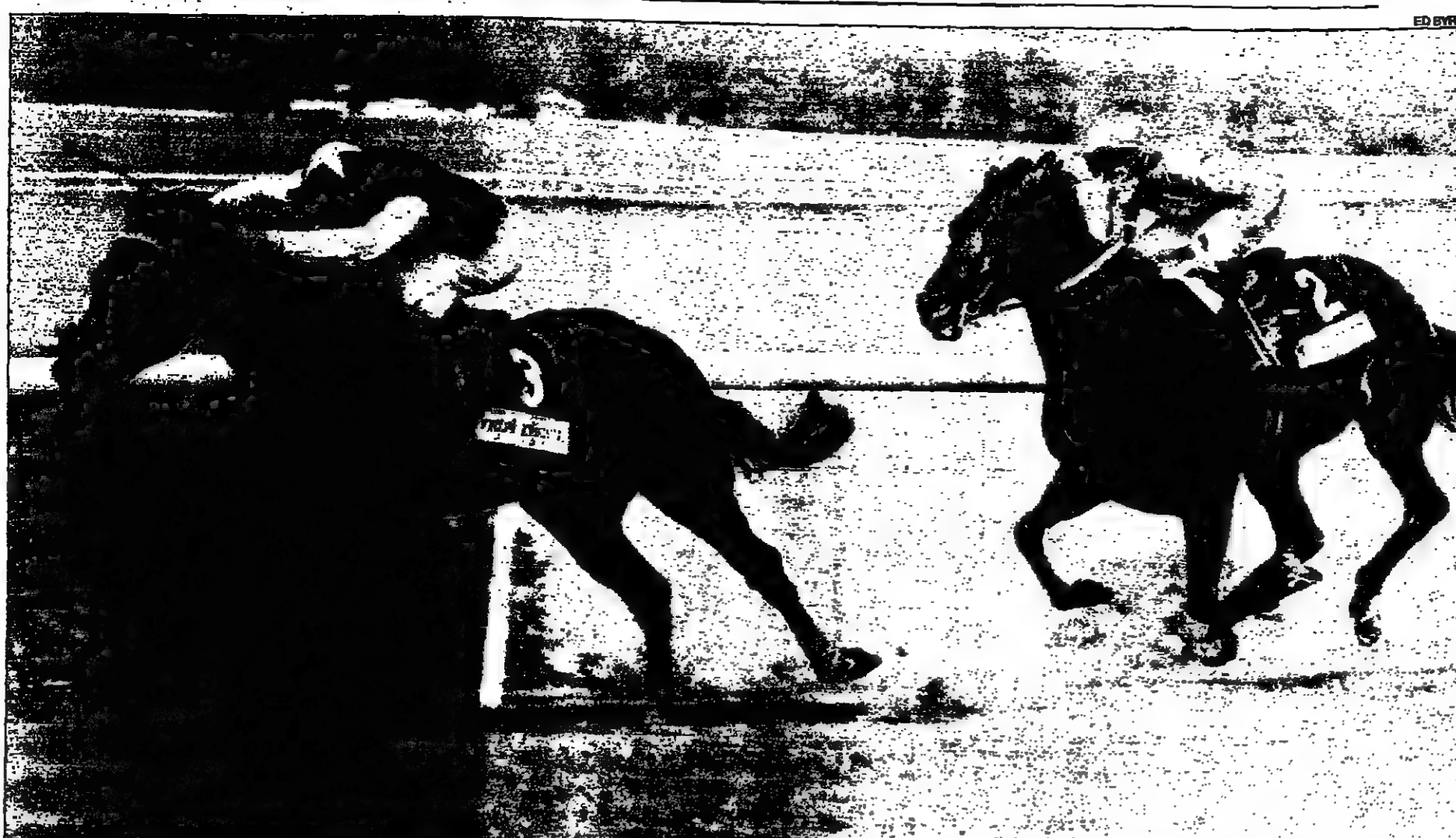
Will home advantage against Sheffield Wednesday help Blackburn Rovers to move clear of the Premiership pack? Thursday Can Newcastle defend a slim lead and progress to the next stage of the European Cup? Friday Europe's Ryder Cup hopefuls set off in pursuit of final places in Severiano Ballesteros's team to take on the United States at Valderrama Saturday Glenn Hoddle names his squad for England's crucial World Cup qualifier against Moldova at Wembley

This week in THE TIMES



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RACING: BRITISH RAIDERS ENJOY CLEAN SWEEP IN YESTERDAY'S PRIX KERGORLAY AT DEAUVILLE



Cape Cross, ridden by Dettori, was subsequently disqualified after storming clear of Among Men in the Tripleprint Celebration Mile at Goodwood on Saturday

Classic Cliche makes stamina a virtue

By CHRIS McGRATH

WHILE its sprint races have been dismissed as short, sharp and shocking, the Flat season has been a vintage one for stayers. Celeric, in the Gold Cup, at Ascot, and those battered, punctured off-road vehicles, Double Trigger and Double Eclipse, have memorably vindicated those who preach against the fad for speed among commercial breeders.

Yesterday provided further testimony to the fortitude and character of the thoroughbred whose principal asset is stamina, when Classic Cliche won the Prix Kergerlay at Deauville.

His two-length defeat of a fellow cross-Channel raider, Orchestra Stall, with another British challenger, Chief Contender, taking third place, was due reward for a supporting role to the stirring deeds of Celeric at Ascot and Double Trigger at Goodwood. Few horses have been

so ill-named as Classic Cliche, as versatile as the Godolphin team has been demanding.

Simon Crisford, his racing manager, said: "His class saw him through today, and his target is now the Irish St. Leger." That race looks set to provide the springboard for his Melbourne Cup challenge, and Europe's as a whole. Melbourne - now there is an enterprise to put the shallow cult of speed in humbling perspective. In racing, the long-distance runner is no longer lonely; the stayer, having found a place in our hearts, is here to stay.

For the impatient quest for gratification places an intolerable burden on many a brittle two-year-old, and the same Deauville card yielded another example when Xaar was foiled in the Prix Morry.

Xaar had looked an authentic classic prospect when fluently dispatching Charge D'Affaires in the

Prix de Cabourg, over course and distance earlier in the month - but the latter proved immune to Xaar's reputation on this occasion, holding him off in a driving finish. They will next try to resolve their differences in the Prix de la Salamandre at Longchamp.

The Irish-trained Heeremandi, going good

PRIX KERGERLAY (Group 1: 2,400m, 10 runners)

1. Classic Cliche (J. P. Dettori) 2. Xaar (J. P. Dettori) 3. Heeremandi (J. P. Dettori) 4. Xaar (J. P. Dettori) 5. Heeremandi (J. P. Dettori) 6. Xaar (J. P. Dettori) 7. Heeremandi (J. P. Dettori) 8. Xaar (J. P. Dettori) 9. Heeremandi (J. P. Dettori) 10. Xaar (J. P. Dettori)

outraced in the Queen Mary Stakes at Royal Ascot, fared better back over six furlongs to finish third, beaten a length and a half, but Desert Prince could not emulate Bahamian Bounty's success the previous year for David Loder, finishing close behind in fifth. His Newmarket trainer was nonetheless pleased, describing the colt as "still immature".

Loder had won a listed race - the Prix de Lieurey - with Kool Kat Katie on Saturday's card, when the locals had better reason than mere alliteration to become tongue-tied. Dust Dancer inflicting a first defeat on Vereya. Dust Dancer had won a low-key listed race at Salisbury before tackling the Prix de la Nonette, but managed to defy the Aga Khan's filly - unraced since her success in the Prix de Diane - under Pat Eddery.

Eddery's readiness to abandon domestic opportunity in favour of

Normandy can only be interpreted as a concession of his championship, the battle for which will increasingly dominate the season's closing weeks. Frankie Dettori and Kieren Fallon are now level, with 121 winners apiece, excluding early season all-weather winners.

It has been widely assumed that the occasional, characteristic rush of blood will prevent one of the protagonists from sustaining his challenge. But the presumption has always been that it will be Fallon. On Saturday, however, Dettori lost not one, but two races, in the Goodwood stewards' room.

In the case of Swiss Law, he was deemed unfortunate. In that of Cape Cross, the officials borrowed from Oscar Wilde, decided him careless, and banned him for five days. It would be ironic indeed if Fallon's, Celtic steel ultimately proved a match for his rival's latin exuberance.

Polly Golightly has pace to see off sprint rivals

EPSOM CHANNEL 4



2.05: In a smallish field, it may prove worth taking a chance that Ellegysa can overcome her wide draw. She has shaped well in maidens over shorter trips and one can certainly forget her poor run behind Master Mac at Lingfield last time, as she was badly drawn. The winner might not beat fourth-placed Hoh Justice on these terms, but both look vulnerable to less exposed types, notably Iron Mountain.

respectable by Danish Rhapsody, who followed up in a hot race at Goodwood, and has most scope for improvement.

2.35: Cross The Border is enjoying a real sprinter's pace on Friday and Beverley on Saturday. But this steep descent is purpose-built for the blazing early pace of Polly Golightly, who has not had things in her favour since her prosperous spell in June. She has been unable to dominate from unhelpful draws, and the only fear is that something similar could happen here, with Lady Sheriff (had the speed to make all on another sharp track in Goodwood) well placed on the stands' rail. Kira would be the one to benefit.

NEWCASTLE CHANNEL 4

2.20: Epic Stand is a progressive type, but he could be vulnerable dropped back in trip, with For Your Eyes Only - threatening to hit winning form of late - an obvious danger. Kaavya's Ash was a smart sort with Michael Stoute prior to an unprofitable stint in Dubai. He stays further than this, but has shaped so well over an inadequate six furlongs for his new connections that it may pay to start following him.

3.10: It is a shame for Shaft Of Light that the amateurs' Derby, as it is known, is not instead the amateurs' St. Leger, as he drops a full six furlongs after an excellent win at Chester last time. He also has form at this distance, and could be hard to overhaul. But Casual Water - who has caught the eye on two or three occasions this season - has now slipped down to a lenient mark and should get the strong gallop he requires. He will be competently assisted, too: likewise Dark Age, a dark horse, who has even run over five furlongs since joining his local trainer from France.

2.55: This valuable nursery, in which the field embarks on the new challenge of a stiff mile, will doubtless conjure a few cases of dramatic improvement. It takes an act of faith in the connections of Naviasky to expect him to win, after getting off the mark over five furlongs last time, but he is bred to stay further and looks progressive. After The Rain looks the best of several intriguing maidens, while Suggest could be a bit of value among those already with winning form.

3.40: This has the makings of a muddling contest: Amrak Ajeeb is disappointing, Winter Romance has been off for two months, and Amid Albadu was last in Ireland last time. The well-bred Zaltiznae has, by contrast, had his Lingfield second rendered even more

3.25: It is that time of year when fillies should be followed closely once they hit form, and Corretta had that look at Leicester. But Woodbeck will be better suited by this trip than the mile of her last two runs, when she was also hampered. Marie Dora improved for the same step up in distance at Newbury, and would have gone close but for being trapped on the rail in the straight.

CHRIS McGRATH

2.05 NIGHT SWIFT

3.40 Arid Albadu
4.70 La Modeste
4.40 Night Shot
5.10 Tipton

Timekeepers' top ratings: 4.40 LIKELY STORY.

2.05 CITY INDUSTRIAL SUPPLIES NURSERY HANDICAP

(2-Y-O: 2,325m) (10 runners)

1. DMS BARTONE 12 (J. P. Dettori) 2. DMS BARTONE 12 (J. P. Dettori) 3. DMS BARTONE 12 (J. P. Dettori) 4. DMS BARTONE 12 (J. P. Dettori) 5. DMS BARTONE 12 (J. P. Dettori) 6. DMS BARTONE 12 (J. P. Dettori) 7. DMS BARTONE 12 (J. P. Dettori) 8. DMS BARTONE 12 (J. P. Dettori) 9. DMS BARTONE 12 (J. P. Dettori) 10. DMS BARTONE 12 (J. P. Dettori)

2.35 HEATHORNS BOOKMAKERS HANDICAP

(2-Y-O: 2,325m) (10 runners)

1. DMS BARTONE 12 (J. P. Dettori) 2. DMS BARTONE 12 (J. P. Dettori) 3. DMS BARTONE 12 (J. P. Dettori) 4. DMS BARTONE 12 (J. P. Dettori) 5. DMS BARTONE 12 (J. P. Dettori) 6. DMS BARTONE 12 (J. P. Dettori) 7. DMS BARTONE 12 (J. P. Dettori) 8. DMS BARTONE 12 (J. P. Dettori) 9. DMS BARTONE 12 (J. P. Dettori) 10. DMS BARTONE 12 (J. P. Dettori)

2.35 HEATHORNS BOOKMAKERS HANDICAP

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COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: W. J. 10, R. 10, S. 10, T. 10, U. 10, V. 10, W. 10, X. 10, Y. 10, Z. 10

JOCKEYS: W. J. 10, R. 10, S. 10, T. 10, U. 10, V. 10, W. 10, X. 10, Y. 10, Z. 10

Blinkered first time

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Charitable strikers put Kinnear in cold sweat



AMULET
WEDNESDAY
By Peter Robinson

The dog days of August may be loathed by newspaper editors for their lack of real news, but they have a history of producing interesting economic data and some stunning market movements. In August 1988, the release of the trade figures delivered a bombshell.

A huge jump in the deficit made it clear that Britain was in the midst of a serious boom and interest rates were immediately raised to 12 per cent. The trade figures have had a quiet time of it recently, but the next set is due this Wednesday. Could they be due for a resurgence of interest?

You would think that the sharp rise of sterling would show up strongly in these numbers in the form of export weakness, and it might. But it often takes a considerable period before the effect you would expect on fundamental grounds comes through. So do not be surprised if the data show exports apparently still untroubled by sterling's rise.

On past form, if this happens it

A surplus would make a nice change

will prompt self-satisfied remarks from some quarters of the City to the effect that an exchange rate close to DM3 is justified. Do not be deceived. There are long-time lags at work. Pricing exports in foreign currency, hedging currency exposure, and simply working through pre-established order books all act as buffers between current production for export and its profitability.

It would be remarkable if an appreciation of the currency of some 20 per cent in a year were to have no effect on trading performance. Even the super-optimists would have some difficulty in arguing that we could have improved our competitiveness that quickly. So if you believe that UK industry can indeed cope with the pound at these levels you are forced to the conclusion that the improvements that now make the



ROGER BOOTLE

France, that supposed sick man of the Western world, recorded a surplus of 1 per cent. If the pound had been undervalued a year ago, it would have been nice for Britain to have recorded a surplus, for a change.

I do not wish to suggest that surpluses are always good and deficits are always bad. Like just

about everything else in economics, it all depends. Chancellor Lawson argued that there was no such thing as a balance of payments problem. As people remarked at the time, however, that was just as well because in 1989, Lord Lawson's last year as Chancellor, the current account deficit exceeded 4 per cent of GDP.

A surplus represents a form of national saving — the accumulation of claims on foreigners. A deficit is a form of national dis-saving or borrowing. It represents the accumulation of claims on us by foreigners. If imports exceed exports for while, so that such claims mount up, so what? History is full of examples of countries that run substantial deficits during phases of strong growth. After all, running a current account deficit is simply another way of saying that you are running a

capital account surplus. Indeed, you cannot be a net importer of capital any other way. This was the position of the US for much of the last century and, more recently, several countries in East Asia.

But this has hardly been Britain's position of late. The record on domestic investment has been lamentable. Although investment may grow a bit faster over the coming year, the bulk of the expansion of demand is going to be spending by consumers. So, if a current account deficit opens up, thanks largely to the level of sterling, then it will not be possible to argue that this reflects the overseas funding of economic development. The inroads will be financing domestic consumption. As such, national wealth will be diminished.

Yet in these clouds of economic gloom, there is a silver lining. You

would think that the consistent running of current account deficits and the build-up of foreign claims on Britain would have led to a substantial deterioration in our net investment income from the rest of the world. On the contrary, the official figures show net investment income continuing to rise. The explanation seems simple: excellent returns on investments around the world.

Perhaps the good news goes deeper. We may simply be better at investing money internationally than most other countries. Our highly developed financial services industry, including a system of funded pensions, led us to diversify assets internationally, to invest predominantly in equities, and even to be early into apparently risky but eventually rewarding areas of the world. The upshot is that we may be a nation of undersavers who spend money at the drop of a hat (or a windfall), but the excellence of our asset managers may save us from the worst consequences of our profligacy.

Minerva in £105m property deal with Prudential

By GEORGE SIVELL

MINERVA, the specialist London office property group that floated last November, yesterday sold the biggest property in its portfolio to the Prudential for £105 million.

In return for the office block at 250 Euston Road, Minerva receives £33.3 million in cash and three Central London office properties from the Prudential portfolio. The block at 250 Euston Road, which is being sold at about book

value, is currently let to the Prudential on a long lease. The three London properties to be received in exchange are Sampson House in Hopton Street, SE1; Chatham Place in East Harding Street, EC4; and Part 40 of 42-48 Wigmore Street, W1.

At the time of flotation Minerva had a portfolio of £402 million and debts of £232 million supported by shareholders' funds of £168 million.

On Friday shares in Minerva, almost half-owned by property veteran David Garrard, chairman, and Andrew Rosenfeld, chief executive, closed unchanged at 178p, an all-time high. The shares were floated at 150p in November, a substantial discount to the net asset value of 176p. The 6 per cent yield on 250 Euston Road was seen as one of the key reasons for the wide discount at the time.

Mr Rosenfeld said: "This transaction will transform the group's profile. The sale of 250 Euston Road, which represents approximately one quarter of the group's property assets by value, coupled with the acquisition of new Central London investment and development properties, will create a springboard from which the group can achieve further growth."

"During our first nine months as a listed company, we have successfully disposed of £107 million of the group's assets and replaced them with new and exciting acquisitions with a total value in excess of £160 million."

Mr Rosenfeld added that the general outlook for the property market remained encouraging, with evidence of strengthening tenant demand. Minerva is due to announce results for the 11 months to the end of June on September 24.

Minerva said that the net asset value of the group will be unaffected by the transaction. Involving 250 Euston Road and that the cash will be used to cut debts. In a full year the net rents from the new Prudential properties, together with the benefits of the retirement of debt, will exceed the net income expected from 250 Euston Road.

Mahathir rejects Soros invitation

By GEORGE SIVELL

MAHATHIR Mohamad, the Malaysian Prime Minister, has rejected an invitation from George Soros, the American financier, to a public discussion at the World Bank conference in Hong Kong next month.

Malaysia's national Bernama news agency quoted the Malaysian premier as saying: "I will go to Hong Kong but I don't have any wish to meet him." Dr Mahathir has blamed Mr Soros for the Far East currency crisis and has criticised the United States for refusing to categorise the financier's currency activities as a crime.

"Mr Soros has denied a key involvement in the South East Asia currency crisis and said he believed stability will return soon. Answering written questions from Hong Kong's *Sunday Morning Post*, Mr Soros said: "We have recently bought Indo-

nesian rupiah." The financier believes some currencies are due for a rebound. "If anything the pendulum has, in some cases, swung too far in the opposite direction," he said when asked if the region's currencies were still overvalued.

Mr Soros also said he did not believe market pressure would break the Hong Kong dollar's peg to the American currency. Those who had moved against the Hong Kong dollar were "not going to get rich."

The wave of speculation was sparked by the high American dollar and by fears of a slowing of growth in the "tiger" economies. Analysts believe that Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines, who have floated currencies in recent weeks or renewed pegs to the dollar, will have to go through a period of structural adjustment.



Preparing for a bigger sales spread: Steven Joseph, left, of Shippam, with Hagen Shulte, of NatWest Markets

Joseph leads Shippam buyout

By MARTIN BARROW

STEVEN JOSEPH, whose Portfolio Foods was acquired by Cadbury Schweppes last year, hopes that his latest vehicle will make it to the stock market.

Mr Joseph is the driving force behind the £15 million buyout of the Shippam savoury sandwich spreads business from Grand Metropolitan, which was announced yesterday.

Shippam, based in Chichester, West Sussex, is the UK market leader in spreadable savoury products and supply of own-label canned chicken. With annual sales of £30 million, the company claims to be able to trace the origins of its raw materials back to individual farms.

Mr Joseph said that the Shippam deal was a first stepping stone in assembling a

sizable food business with sales of about £200 million a year, which would then be listed on the stock market, and funding is available for further acquisitions.

Mr Joseph said: "We took the decision to sell Portfolio to Cadbury but we would hope this business could make it all the way to the stock market rather than lead to another trade sale." Portfolio, trading

as Craven Kailler and with sales of about £80 million, was sold to Cadbury in April 1996 when it became part of Trebor Bassett. A maker of confectionery and popcorn, its brands included Barker and Dobson and Butterkist.

Mr Joseph's latest enterprise is backed by NatWest Ventures. Senior debt and working capital funding were provided by Bank of Scotland.

Cordiant stays, says Camelot

By JON ASHWORTH

CAMELOT, the National Lottery operator, has moved to dispel rumours that it is about to throw open its £50 million-a-year advertising account to competitive tender.

The loss of the account — one of the most lucrative in the UK — would be a blow to Cordiant, the advertising group formerly known as Saatchi & Saatchi, which is seeking to break up its operations. The account is high in prestige and is likely to net Cordiant several million pounds a year in billings — as distinct from the £50 million advertising spend. Camelot is anxious to maintain public enthusiasm for the lottery, and closely monitors the impact of its advertising campaign.

Dianne Thompson, Came-

lot's commercial operations director, has been visiting advertising agencies but denies that a change to the Cordiant agreement is imminent. Mrs Thompson said Cordiant is on a three-year contract which expires in June 1998. Further, Camelot is obliged to give one year's notice of its intention to end the agreement.

Camelot has spent more than £100 million promoting the National Lottery since the first tickets went on sale in November 1994. Falling sales of National Lottery Instant have left the operator under pressure and it is facing increasing competition on a range of fronts. Last week Camelot failed in its latest attempt to stop bookmakers

running 49's, a televised draw screened in betting shops.

The break-up of Cordiant is the final chapter for what was one of the world's most powerful advertising groups. Its founders Charles and Maurice (now Lord) Saatchi, made Saatchi & Saatchi a household name during the 1980s. Unseated in a shareholder revolt, the Saatchi brothers set up a new agency, M&C Saatchi.

Under a plan announced in April, Cordiant is to spin off its main advertising agencies — Bates and Saatchi & Saatchi Advertising Worldwide — into two quoted companies whose shares will be traded in London and New York. Each will own half of Zenith Media Worldwide, Cordiant's media-buying business.

Xaar planning to seek full London listing

XAAR, the advanced ink jet technology group, is to seek a full listing on the London Stock Exchange, it was announced yesterday.

Nomura International has been appointed as sponsor and lead manager for the placing and Greig Middleton has been appointed as placing agent. The company expects to raise between £10 million and £12 million to fund expansion. Xaar is expected to be valued at about £60 million.

So far Xaar has raised £8.1 million, including venture capital provided by 3i and Prehude Technology and an institutional private placing in 1996. Xaar employs 65 staff and is located at the Cambridge Science Park.

Trade issues plea to EU

By OUR BUSINESS STAFF

THE European Union should focus on trade issues rather than being diverted by social and political objectives over the course of the next few years, the Institute of Directors says today.

In an economic comment paper published today, the Institute of Directors also welcomes many aspects of the action plan for the single market, which was agreed at the Amsterdam summit that took place earlier this year.

Andrew Lilico, the institute's international and public sector economist, says: "The European Union action plan is a welcome recognition of the opportunities which still exist for trade liberalisation."

"Particularly welcomed are proposed measures for service

sector liberalisation, late payment, public procurement and state aids."

However, on a cautionary note, Mr Lilico adds: "As so often with Europe, there are some proposals which are not necessary to the development of a single market and some proposals which are unrealistic."

The Institute of Directors finds especially unwelcome the proposals put forward by Brussels for the harmonisation of corporation taxes, and for capital gains taxes, Mr Lilico says.

The institute also says that it hopes that future European initiatives will focus on the "worthwhile gains" to be made in trade liberalisation and trade co-operation, and will not be distracted into other areas.

In general, the Institute of Directors is against European Union legislation that undermines national sovereignty without promoting trade.

Mr Lilico says: "The Institute of Directors welcomes the action plan overall and sees many good opportunities for progress within it."

"But it fears that if the European Union does not keep focused on trade, this will increase the political strength of protectionists and nationalists who are opposed to the whole European project."

"This runs the grave danger of undermining the valuable gains that have been made from the creation of a single market."

SUNDAY TIPS

The Observer: Buy: BG, Centrica, Updown Investment Trust, Laura Ashley. The Sunday Telegraph: Buy: Shell, Traficomaster, RPS, AG Barr, Full Circle, Dixon Motors. Independent on Sunday: Buy: Sherwood International, Haden MacLellan, Burmah Castrol. The Sunday Times: Buy: Pison, CRT, FI Group, Culver, Vinc, Brit Alcor. The Express on Sunday: Buy: Ethical unit trusts such as Friends Provident Stewardship, Jupiter Ecology and NPI's Global Care fund.

Answers from page 33

- HAMBURGH**
(4) The collar of a draught horse. A barham or breeham. The Old English word. "His wig on her like a hamburgh on his shoulders."
- HAMMAM**
(4) Or hammam. An Oriental bathing establishment; a Turkish bath. The Arabic word for a bath. "There she is free from the jealous espionage of her lord, which stops at the hammam's threshold."
- JULIFEROUS**
(4) Bearing catkins, amenable. From the Latin *Julus* a catkin + *ferous* bearing. "The short juliferous spikes are of a straw-colour."
- KIPE**
(4) A basket. Specifically, an oster basket used for catching fish. A basket used as a measure, in dialect. From the OE *kype*, Low German *kipe* a basket carried in the hand or on the back. "The Kipe is a basket made of Osiers, broader at Bottom, and narrowed by degrees to the Top, but left open at both ends, which is used for taking of fish, particularly at Osmore in Oxfordshire, where this manner of fishing is called Kiping, and going to Kipe."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1... f5 and if 2 f5h4 is checkmate. White tried 2 Nf4 but quickly lost after 2... Rd4-3 e5f4 h4-4. 4 Kg4 Qg8-2

Masters of disguise sought by Orange

By ERIC REGULY



Orange tree: but the Cockermouth base station fooled no one

ORANGE, the third-largest mobile phone network, is to hold an open competition later this year to design base stations that could be mistaken for sculptures.

The company is making a virtue of a necessity. The Government is putting pressure on mobile-phone operators to cease blighting the urban and rural landscapes with the base stations, the metal poles that receive and transmit radio signals.

However, the companies cannot expand without building thousands more. Orange,

for example, recently announced plans to more than double the number of base stations to 6,000 by the year 2000. Its strategy is to make them environmentally acceptable by disguising them.

The first effort was a base station in the shape of a tree in Cockermouth, just north of the Lake District. The fat metal pole, devoid of leaves, fooled no one. A slimmer version, in the shape of a pine tree, is on the drawing board.

Because tree-shaped base stations will not work everywhere, Orange wants to de-

sign and erect hundreds that look like sculptures. "They have to fit into the environment," said Colin Tucker, Orange's technical director. "They should be appropriate for the area."

Several designs have already been produced by Public Arts, a charity based in Wakefield. Orange is organising a nationwide competition for additional designs and will pay the winning artists a fee. It expects to release details of the competition in the autumn. "We want to turn this into an event," said Mr Tucker.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia \$	2.25	2.07
Austria Sch	21.48	19.82
Belgium F	80.29	36.32
Canada C	1.25	2.174
Cyprus Cyp£	0.901	0.830
Denmark Kr	11.88	10.79
France F	9.51	8.51
Germany Dm	10.27	9.49
Greece Dr	3.08	2.83
Hong Kong S	494	445
Iceland	12.25	12.03
Israel P	127	107
Italy Lira	1.14	1.06
Japan Yen	5.38	5.33
Netherlands Gld	3015	2778
New Zealand \$	262.73	189.20
Norway Kr	3.688	3.510
Portugal Esc	3.489	3.174
Spain Ptas	2.53	2.40
Sweden Swk	12.19	11.82
Switzerland Fr	307.53	285.50
Turkey Lira	8.25	7.29
USA \$	27.29	23.20
UK £	13.55	12.45
Yugoslavia D	272.52	240.45
USA \$	1.711	1.588

